



Are You Alice?

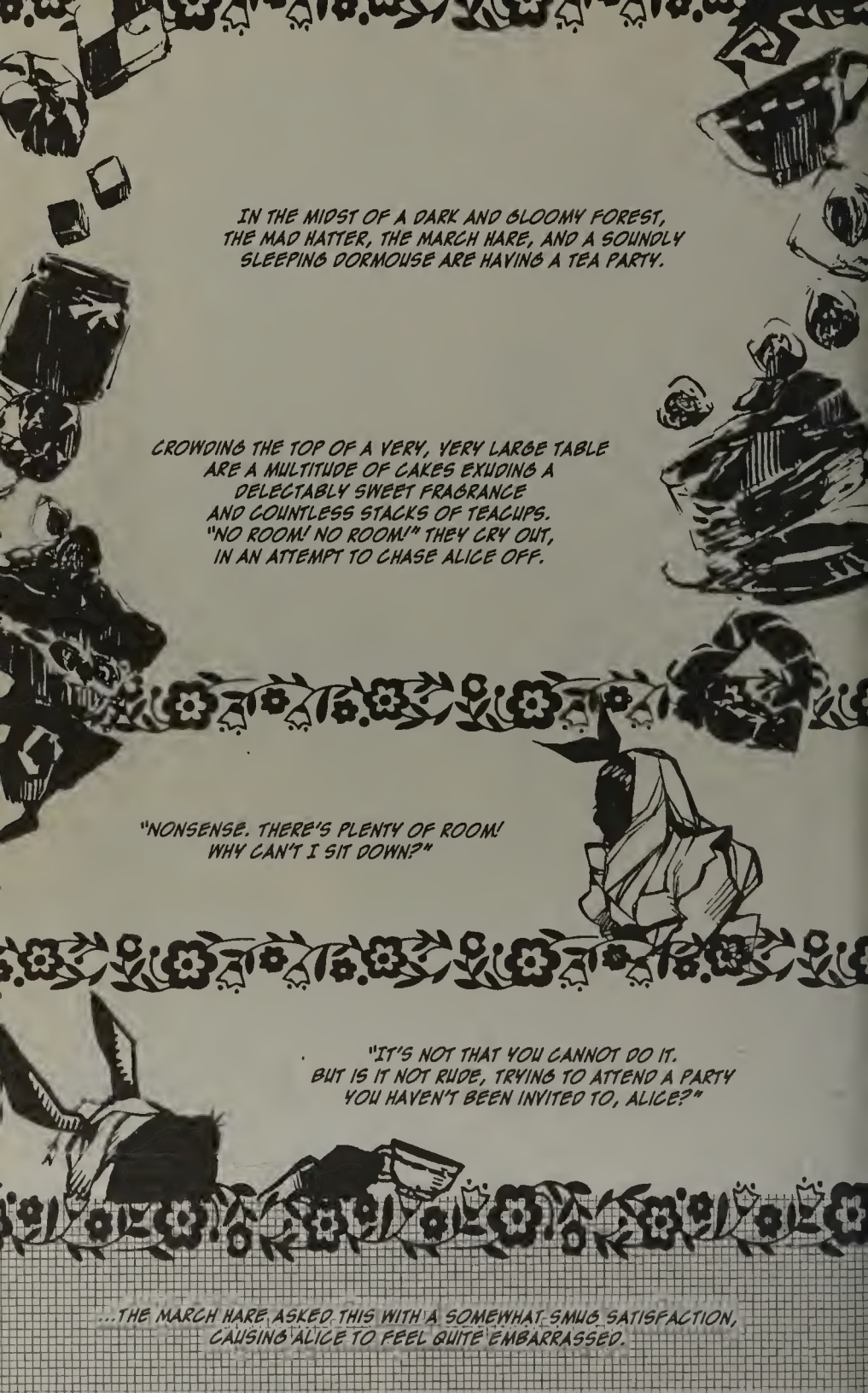
IKUMI KATAGIRI

ORIGINAL
STORY BY AI NINOMIYA



Are You Alice?

IKUMI KATAGIRI / AI NINOMIYA



IN THE MIDST OF A DARK AND GLOOMY FOREST,
THE MAD HATTER, THE MARCH HARE, AND A SOUNDLY
SLEEPING DORMOUSE ARE HAVING A TEA PARTY.

CROWDING THE TOP OF A VERY, VERY LARGE TABLE
ARE A MULTITUDE OF CAKES EXUDING A
DELECTABLY SWEET FRAGRANCE
AND COUNTLESS STACKS OF TEACUPS.
"NO ROOM! NO ROOM!" THEY CRY OUT,
IN AN ATTEMPT TO CHASE ALICE OFF.

"NONSENSE. THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM!
WHY CAN'T I SIT DOWN?"

"IT'S NOT THAT YOU CANNOT DO IT.
BUT IS IT NOT RUDE, TRYING TO ATTEND A PARTY
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN INVITED TO, ALICE?"

...THE MARCH HARE ASKED THIS WITH A SOMEWHAT SMUG SATISFACTION,
CAUSING ALICE TO FEEL QUITE EMBARRASSED.

Are You Alice?
7
CONTENTS!



Chapter 37
March Hare.
3

Chapter 38
Cinderella.
33

Chapter 39
The Knave of Hearts.
67

Chapter 40
Playing Cards.
89

Chapter 41
Imperfect Combustion.
119

Chapter 42
Street Passions.
149

WHAT
EXACTLY WAS
I TRYING TO
ACCOMPLISH
...?

WHAT WAS I TRYING
TO PROTECT SO
BADLY THAT I
WENT SO FAR AS TO
WARP THE RULES
OF THE GAME?

— FOR ALICE'S
SAKE, I JUST...

... DID WHAT I HAD TO,
AS THE WHITE RABBIT.

IN THAT CASE, IF
I LOSE THE GAME,
I'LL GIVE MY
ABILITY TO YOU.

AH, SEE.

SO MY NAME IS
"MARCH HARE."
HMM...

I'LL TAKE GOOD
CARE OF IT,
WHITE RABBIT.

THE REASON FOR THE EXISTENCE
OF "THE MARCH HARE"...

...IS FOR HIM TO BECOME AN ALLY
TO "THE MAD HATTER."



THAT'S WHY HE TOO WILL END UP...

NAME...

A NAME...

MY NAME...

...JUST LIKE THE
DORMOUSE—

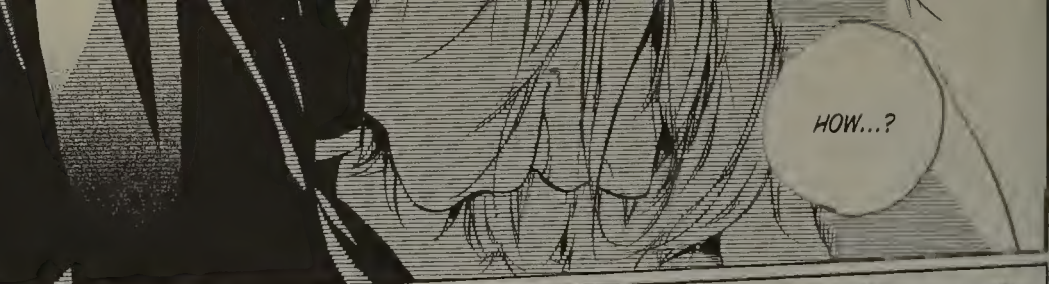


WHY DID
YOU COME TO
THIS LAND!?

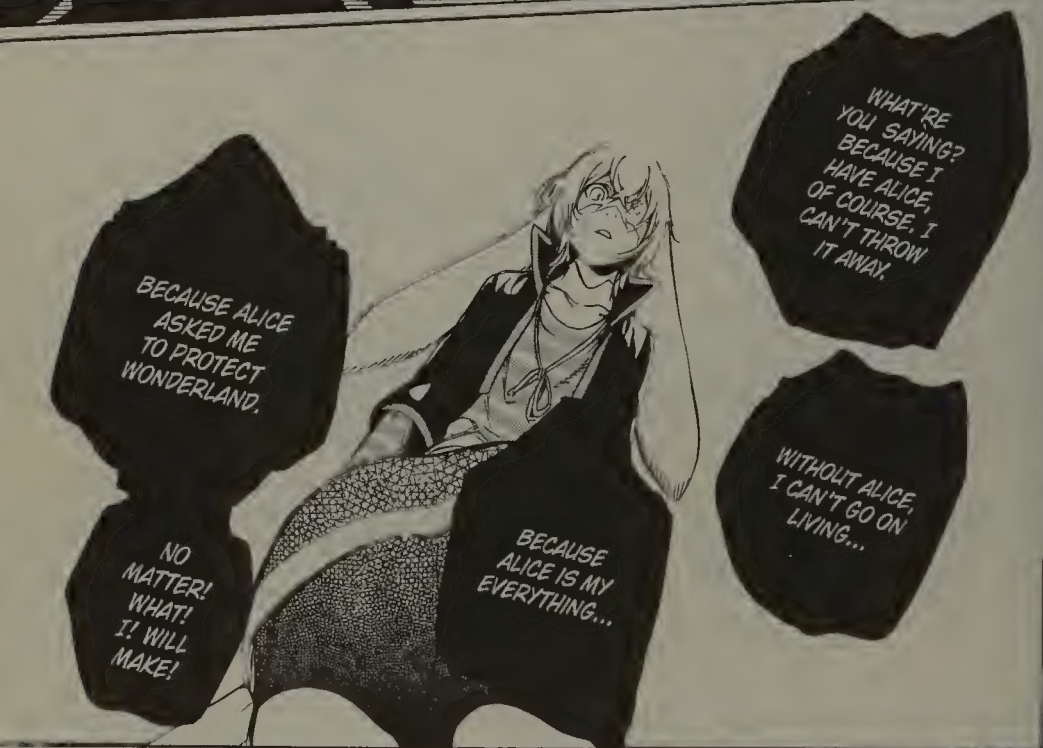
DO
CWHAND

WHITEY!!

Chapter 37
Match Hare



HOW...?



BECAUSE ALICE
ASKED ME
TO PROTECT
WONDERLAND.

NO
MATTER!
WHAT!
I! WILL
MAKE!

BECAUSE
ALICE IS MY
EVERYTHING...

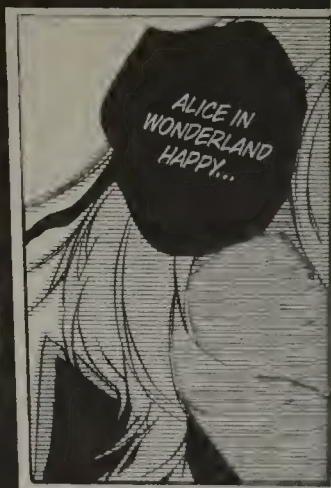
WHAT'RE
YOU SAYING?
BECAUSE I
HAVE ALICE,
OF COURSE, I
CAN'T THROW
IT AWAY.

WITHOUT ALICE,
I CAN'T GO ON
LIVING...



...ALICE...

...IN WONDERLAND.



ALICE IN
WONDERLAND
HAPPY...

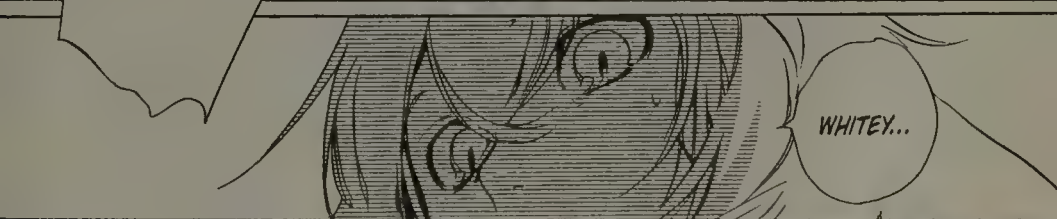


IT'LL BE
MY FAULT IF
ALICE DIES
AGAIN!

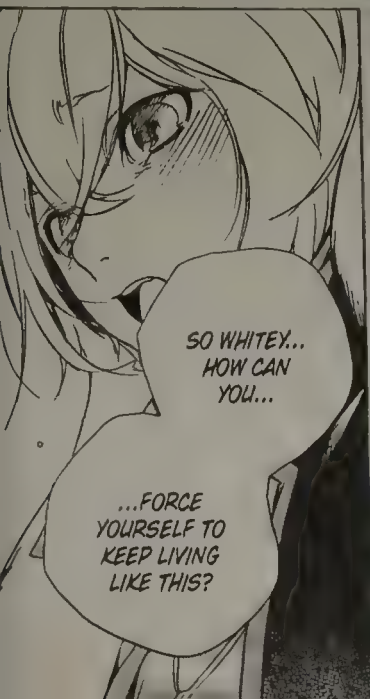
WHY WON'T
ALICE COME
TO KILL ME!?

WHY HAVEN'T
I BEEN ABLE
TO DO IT!? I
CAN'T SAVE
ALICE!

ALL I WANTED
TO DO WAS
SAVE ALICE,
AND YET...!

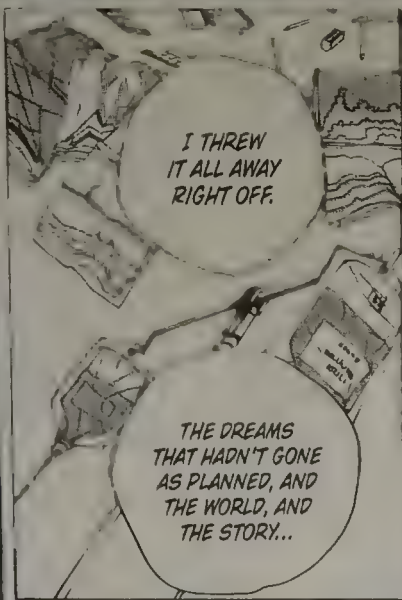


WHITEY...



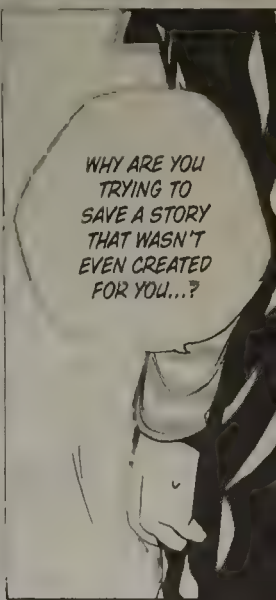
SO WHITEY...
HOW CAN
YOU...

...FORCE
YOURSELF TO
KEEP LIVING
LIKE THIS?

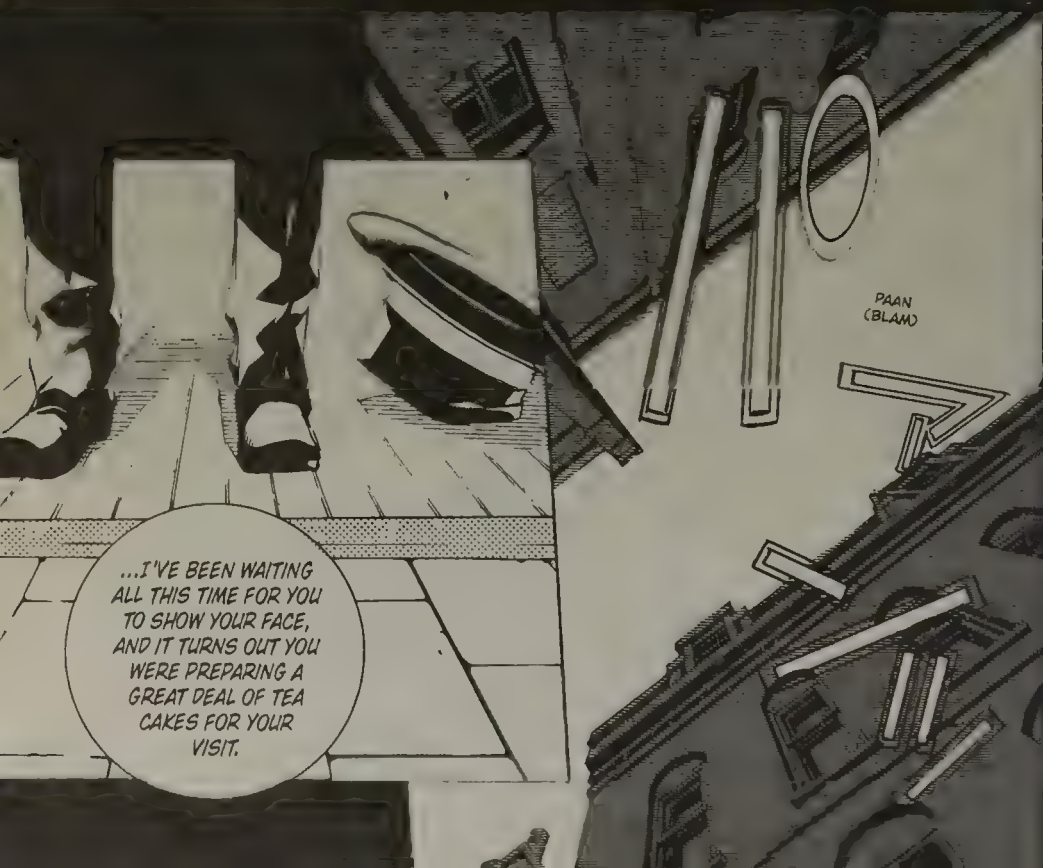


I THREW
IT ALL AWAY
RIGHT OFF.

THE DREAMS
THAT HADN'T GONE
AS PLANNED, AND
THE WORLD, AND
THE STORY...



WHY ARE YOU
TRYING TO
SAVE A STORY
THAT WASN'T
EVEN CREATED
FOR YOU...?



WHAT I, AS THE MARCH HARE, AM SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPLISH...



77 KASA

77 KASA

77 KASA
(CRUSTLE)

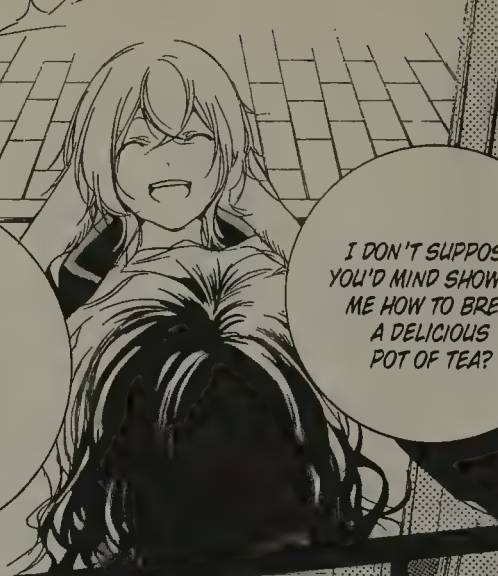


YET
AGAIN...

...I'M ALL
ALONE.

HOW
LONESOME...

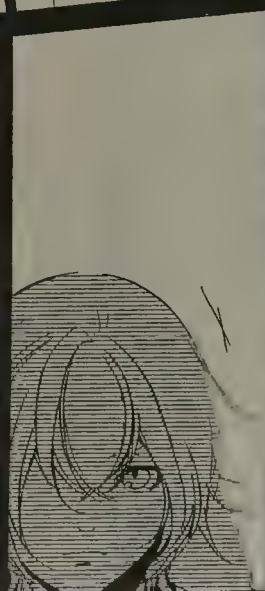
...IT IS...



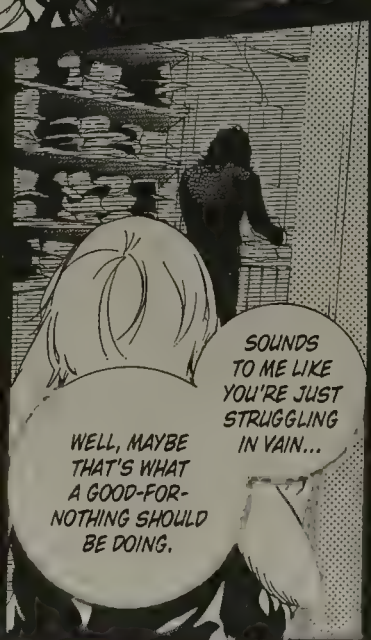
FROM TODAY ON,
YOU'LL BE LIKE
A SENSEI TO ME,
TEACHING ME HOW
TO BREW TEA WELL.

I DON'T SUPPOSE
YOU'D MIND SHOWING
ME HOW TO BREW
A DELICIOUS
POT OF TEA?

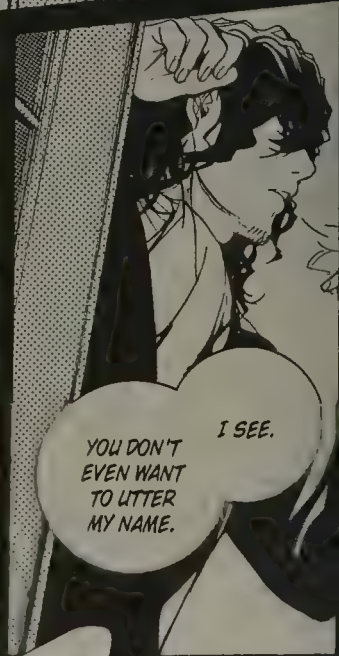
OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.



WELL, MAYBE
THAT'S WHAT
A GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING SHOULD
BE DOING.

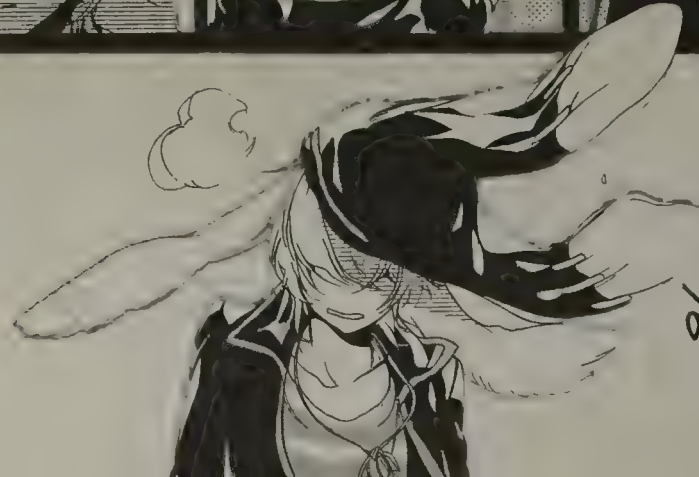


SOUNDS
TO ME LIKE
YOU'RE JUST
STRUGGLING
IN VAIN...



YOU DON'T
EVEN WANT
TO UTTER
MY NAME.

I SEE.

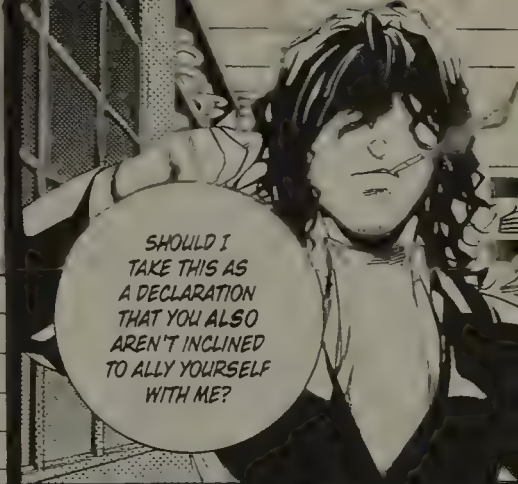


BOSU
(FWOP)

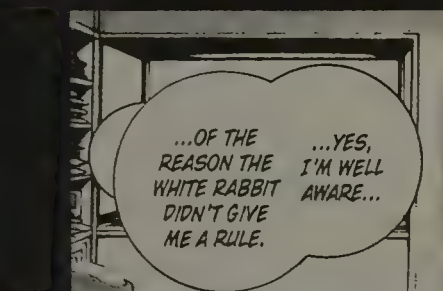


...EVEN THOUGH
IT'S OUR FIRST
TIME MEETING,
YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO ASK...

...MY
NAME?

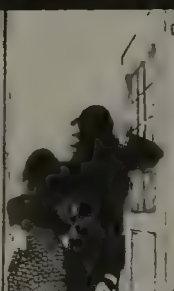


SHOULD I
TAKE THIS AS
A DECLARATION
THAT YOU ALSO
AREN'T INCLINED
TO ALLY YOURSELF
WITH ME?



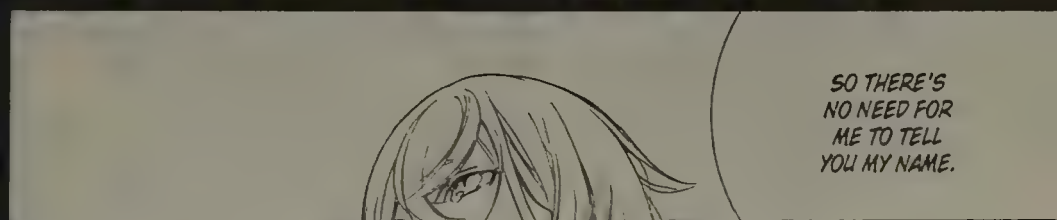
...OF THE
REASON THE
WHITE RABBIT
DIDN'T GIVE
ME A RULE.

...YES,
I'M WELL
AWARE...

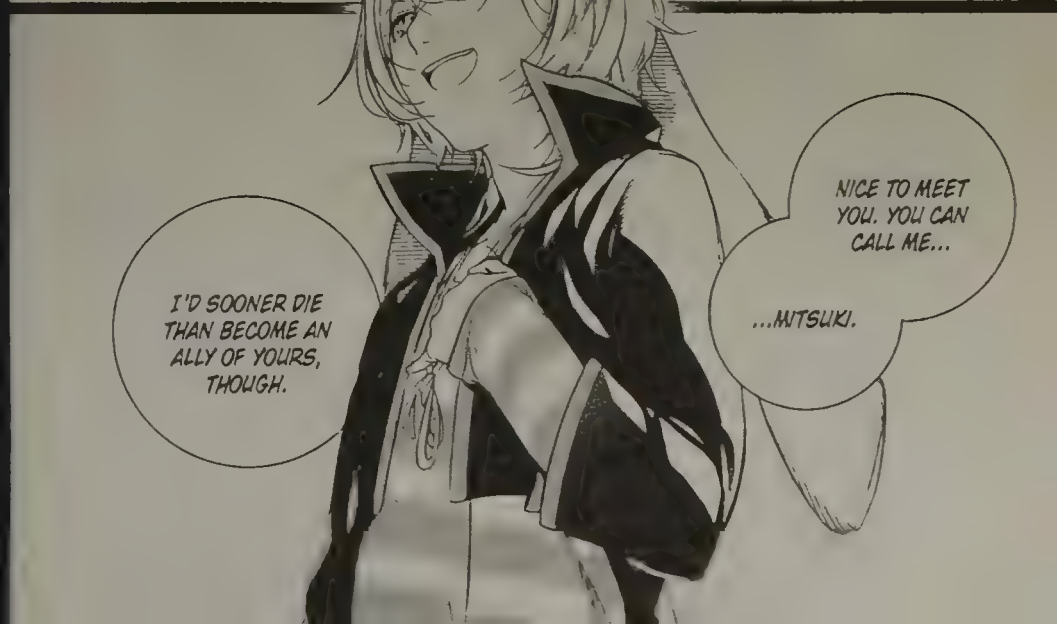


DON'T YOU
KNOW THERE'S
NO ESCAPING
FROM THIS
GAME?

THERE ISN'T
A PERSON IN
WONDERLAND WHO
DOESN'T KNOW THE
NAME AND RULE
YOU WERE GIVEN.



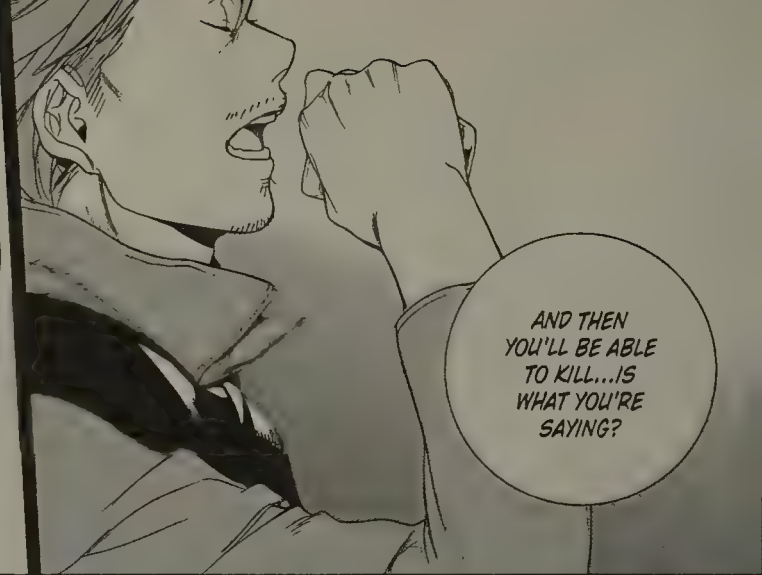
SO THERE'S
NO NEED FOR
ME TO TELL
YOU MY NAME.



I'D SOONER DIE
THAN BECOME AN
ALLY OF YOURS,
THOUGH.

NICE TO MEET
YOU. YOU CAN
CALL ME...

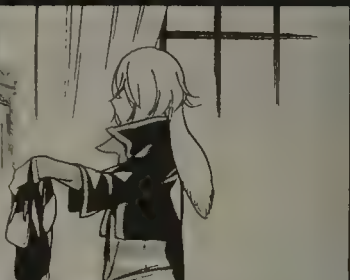
...MITSUKI.



YOU KNOW, I'VE
BEEN MEANING TO
TELL YOU, BUT I
REALLY HATE THE
WAY YOU DO THAT.

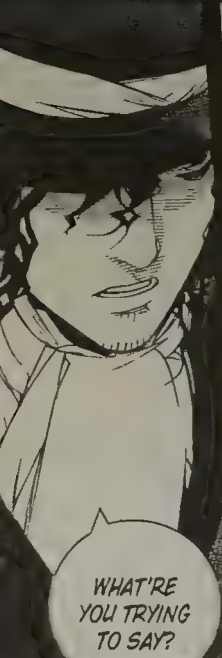
AND I
SHOULD
CARE?

AND THEN
YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO KILL...IS
WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING?



...WHY DO YOU
THINK THE WHITE
RABBIT'S TRYING
TO KEEP HIM AT
A DISTANCE?

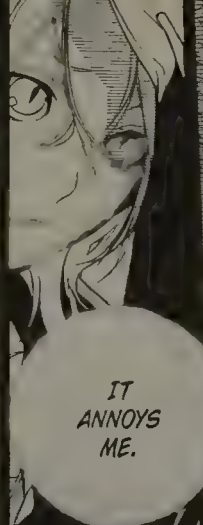
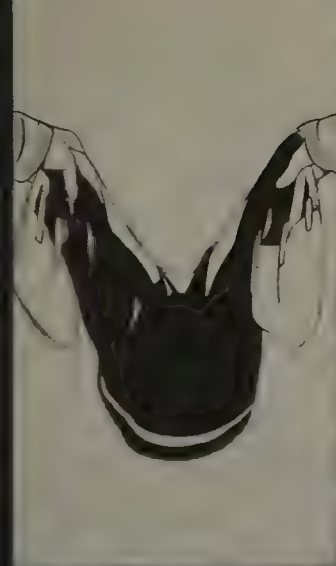
HEY...



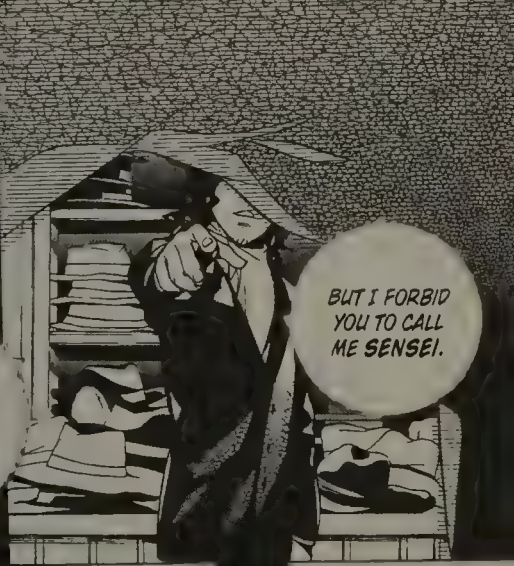
ISN'T IT
'COS HE'S
USELESS?

HE DOESN'T
WANT TO DRAG
A PRECIOUS
ALLY INTO THIS
GAME OF HIS.

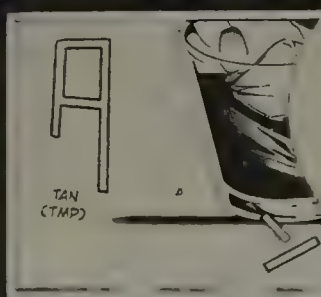
WHAT'RE
YOU TRYING
TO SAY?



IT
ANNOYS
ME.

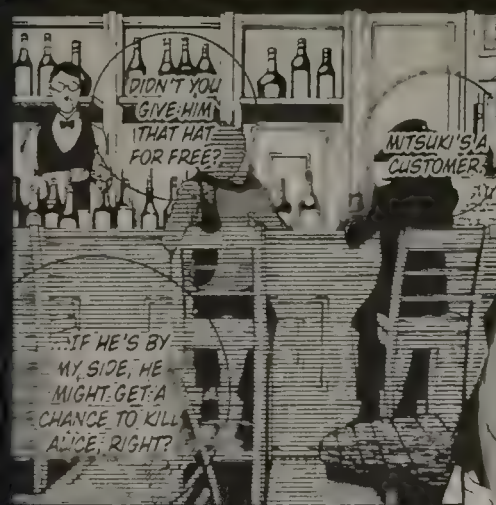
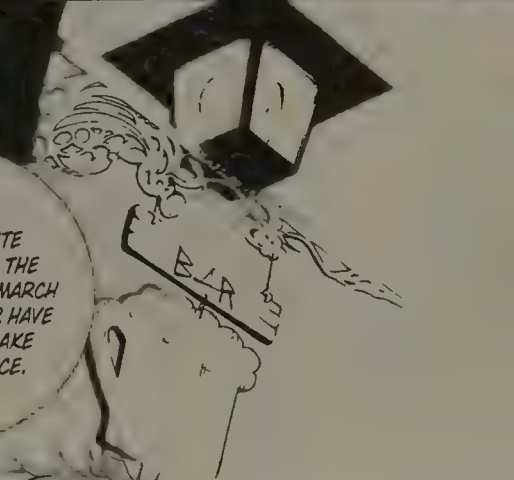


BUT I FORBID
YOU TO CALL
ME SENSEI.



TAN
(TMP)

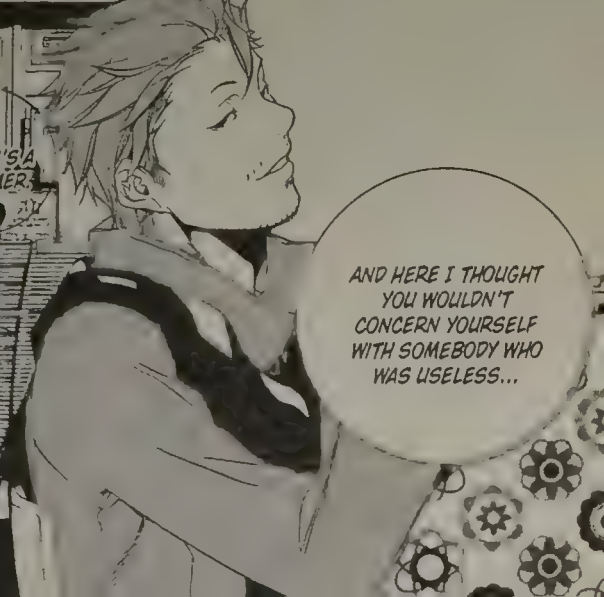
ONCE THE WHITE
RABBIT'S DEAD, THE
GAME ENDS. THE MARCH
HARE WILL NEVER HAVE
A CHANCE TO MAKE
HIS APPEARANCE.



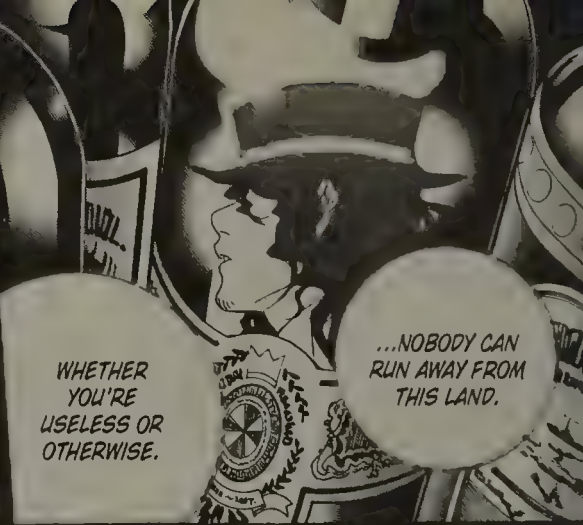
DIDN'T YOU
GIVE HIM
THAT HAT
FOR FREE?

MITSUKI'S A
CUSTOMER.

...IF HE'S BY
MY SIDE, HE
MIGHT GET A
CHANCE TO KILL
ALICE, RIGHT?



AND HERE I THOUGHT
YOU WOULDN'T
CONCERN YOURSELF
WITH SOMEBODY WHO
WAS USELESS...



—THERE'S
ONE
EXCEPTION.

A VERY SIMPLE
MEANS OF GETTING
OUT OF HERE.

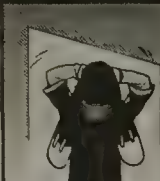
WHETHER
YOU'RE
USELESS OR
OTHERWISE.

...NOBODY CAN
RUN AWAY FROM
THIS LAND.

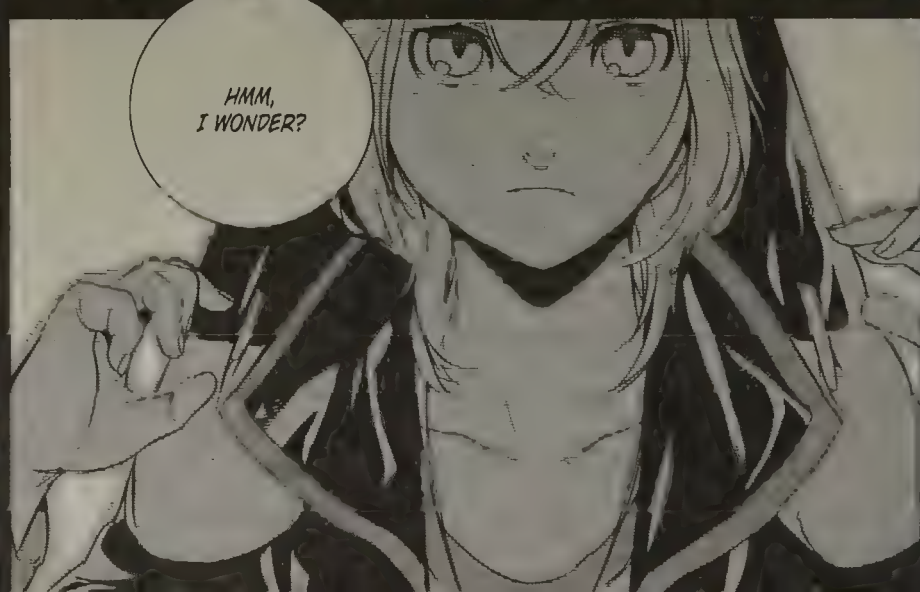
WHETHER YOU'RE
USELESS OR NOT,
IT'S A MATTER
OF PRIDE.

I'LL KEEP
STRUGGLING
IN VAIN.

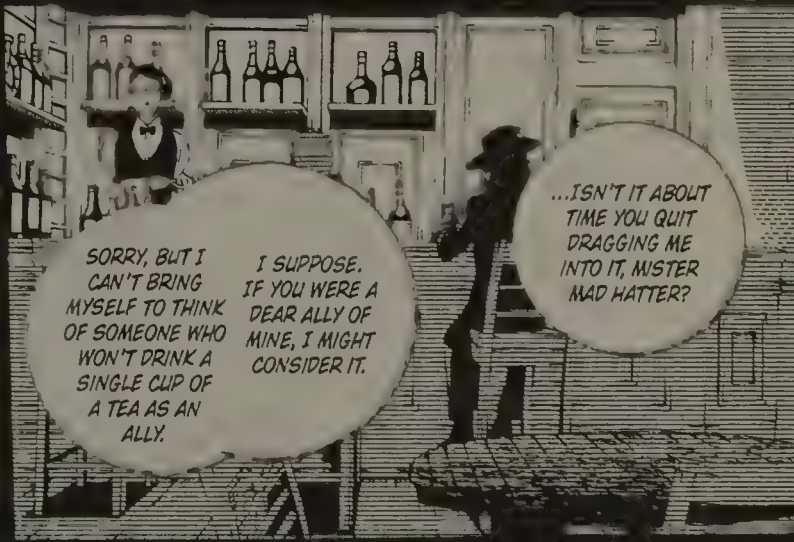
BUT I
WON'T USE
IT JUST
YET.



...WHAT'S
THAT S'POSED
TO MEAN?



HMM,
I WONDER?



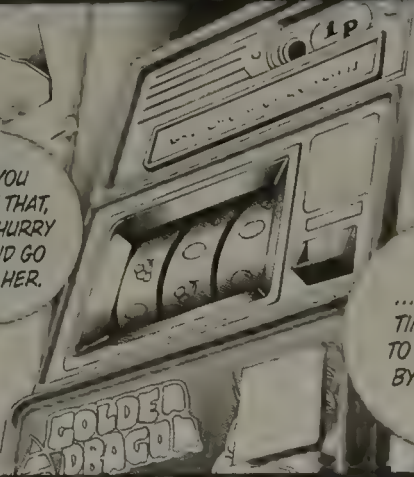
I REALLY
HATE THE WAY
YOU DO THAT.

AND I
SHOULD
CARE?

SORRY, BUT I
CAN'T BRING
MYSELF TO THINK
OF SOMEONE WHO
WON'T DRINK A
SINGLE CUP OF
A TEA AS AN
ALLY.

I SUPPOSE.
IF YOU WERE A
DEAR ALLY OF
MINE, I MIGHT
CONSIDER IT.

...ISN'T IT ABOUT
TIME YOU QUIT
DRAGGING ME
INTO IT, MISTER
MAD HATTER?

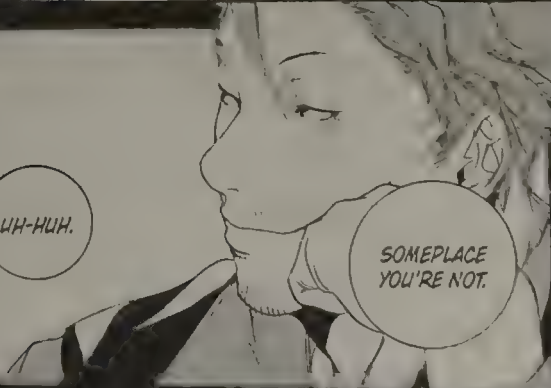


SHE'S REALLY
GONNA START
HATING YOU IF
YOU KEEP BEING
SO CALLOUS.

IF YOU
KNOW THAT,
THEN HURRY
UP AND GO
SAVE HER.

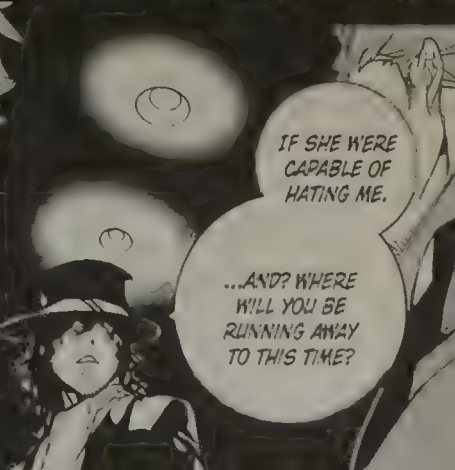
NOW THEN,
I SHOULD BE
GOING TO PICK
ALICE UP.

...IT'S ABOUT
TIME FOR HER
TO GET CAUGHT
BY THAT DUMB
CAT.



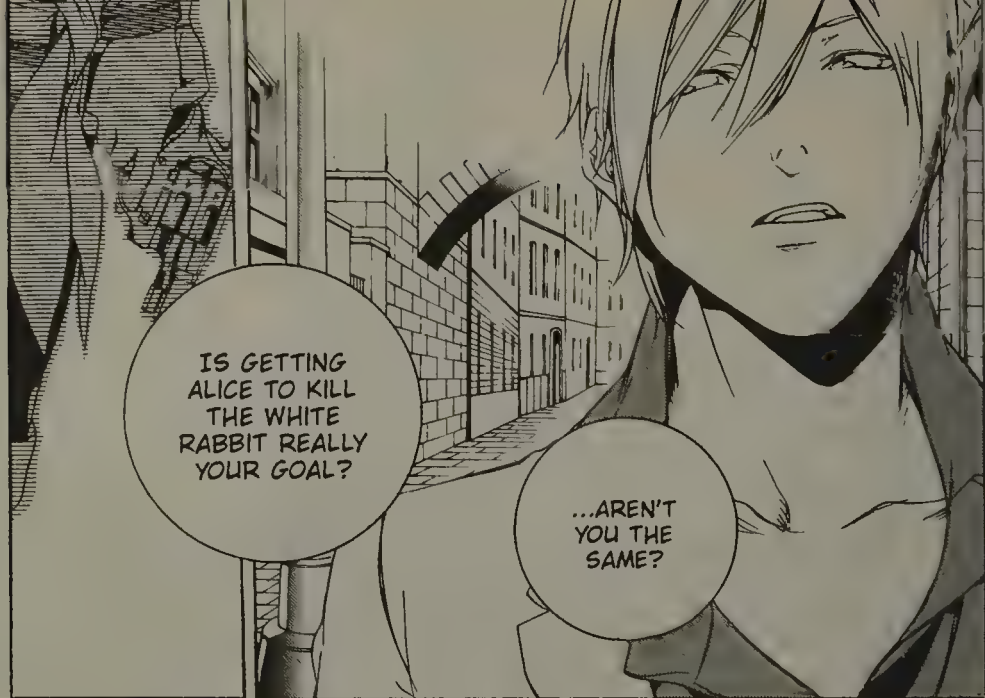
UH-HUH.

SOMEPLACE
YOU'RE NOT.



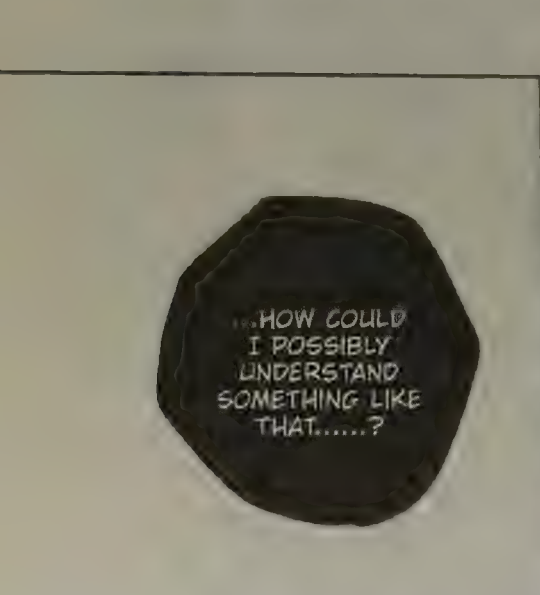
IF SHE WERE
CAPABLE OF
HATING ME.

...AND? WHERE
WILL YOU BE
RUNNING AWAY
TO THIS TIME?



IS GETTING
ALICE TO KILL
THE WHITE
RABBIT REALLY
YOUR GOAL?

...AREN'T
YOU THE
SAME?

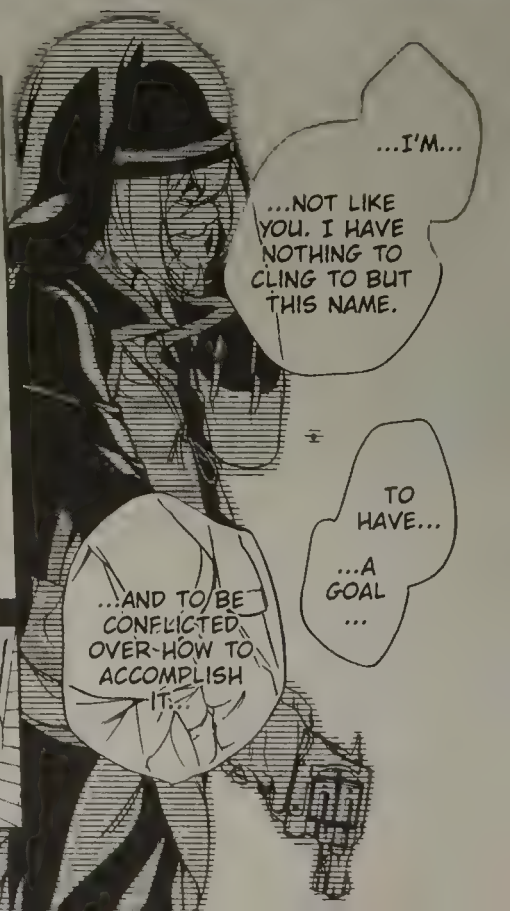


...HOW COULD
I POSSIBLY
UNDERSTAND
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT.....?



—I'M
GOING
HOME FOR
TODAY.

...ARE
YOU —



...I'M...

...NOT LIKE
YOU. I HAVE
NOTHING TO
CLING TO BUT
THIS NAME.

TO
HAVE...

...A
GOAL
...

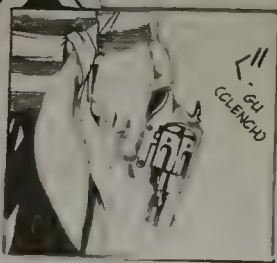
...AND TO BE
CONFLICTED
OVER HOW TO
ACCOMPLISH
IT...



...I...

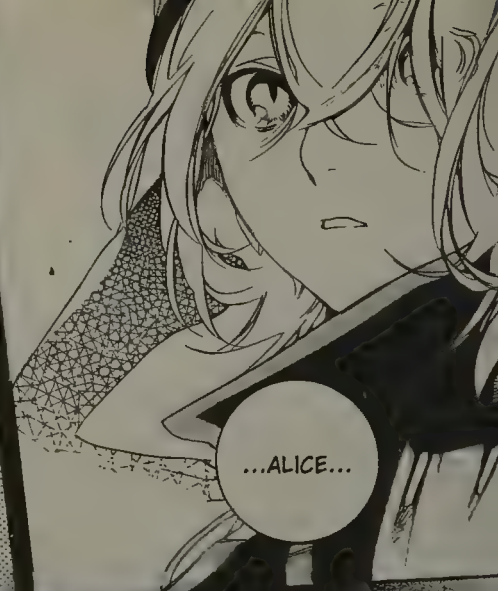
BUT I
REALIZED
...
...THAT'S
NOT MY
GOAL.

...GOAL
...?



...DON'T REALLY
CARE WHO I
HAVE TO KILL,
AS LONG AS
I CAN KEEP
BEING ALICE.

—THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT.



...YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO TRY
TO STOP ME,
MASTER?

...ALICE...

KACHA
(CLINK)
カチャ

THAT'S
THE RULE
THE WHITE
RABBIT
GAVE ME.

IF YOU WANNA
BE KILLED BY ME,
YOU'LL HAVE TO
DO YOUR BEST
TO BECOME
ALICE'S ENEMY.

SO SHOULDN'T
YOU KILL ME?

I'M NOT
WORRIED ABOUT
HIM. IT'S MORE
ABOUT WHAT
YOU PLAN
TO DO.

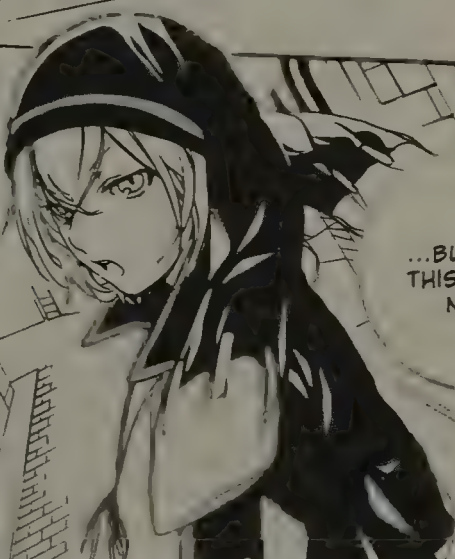
DON'T BLAME
ME IF YOUR
PRECIOUS
ALICE DIES.

...YOU'RE
PRETTY
LAID-BACK.

I DESPISE
ALICE...
...SO MUCH
THAT I WANT
TO KILL
ALICE.

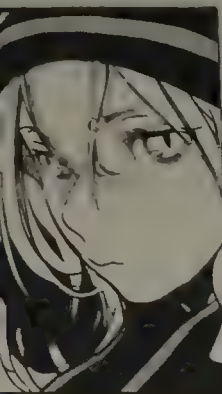


I GUESS
I MADE A
MISTAKE NOT
BRINGING
A PRESENT
FOR ALICE
THIS TIME.



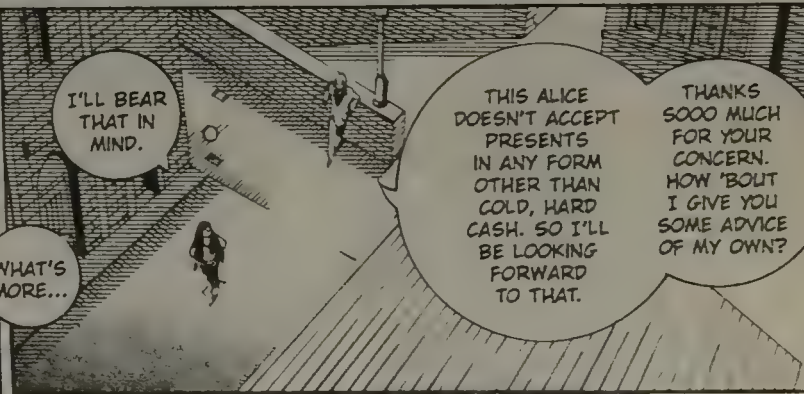
YOU WON'T
CHANGE
ANYTHING
WITH THAT
HYPOCRITICAL
WAY OF
THINKING.

...BUT KNOW
THIS. YOU'RE
NAIVE.



I'LL BEAR
THAT IN
MIND.

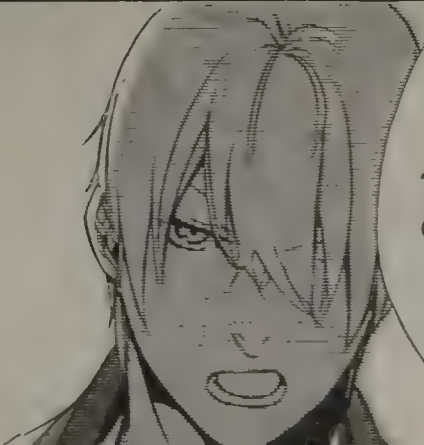
WHAT'S
MORE...



THIS ALICE
DOESN'T ACCEPT
PRESENTS
IN ANY FORM
OTHER THAN
COLD, HARD
CASH. SO I'LL
BE LOOKING
FORWARD
TO THAT.

THANKS
SOOO MUCH
FOR YOUR
CONCERN.
HOW 'BOUT
I GIVE YOU
SOME ADVICE
OF MY OWN?

IT'S BEEN
OBVIOUS
FROM THE
START WHAT
IT IS THAT
YOU WANNA
PROTECT...



...IF YOU'RE
A RABBIT,
QUIT ACTIN'
SO MUCH
LIKE A CAT.



HOW WAS
THE TASTE
TEST?

OH,
GOOD TO
SEE YOU'RE
ALL IN ONE
PIECE.



USELESS.

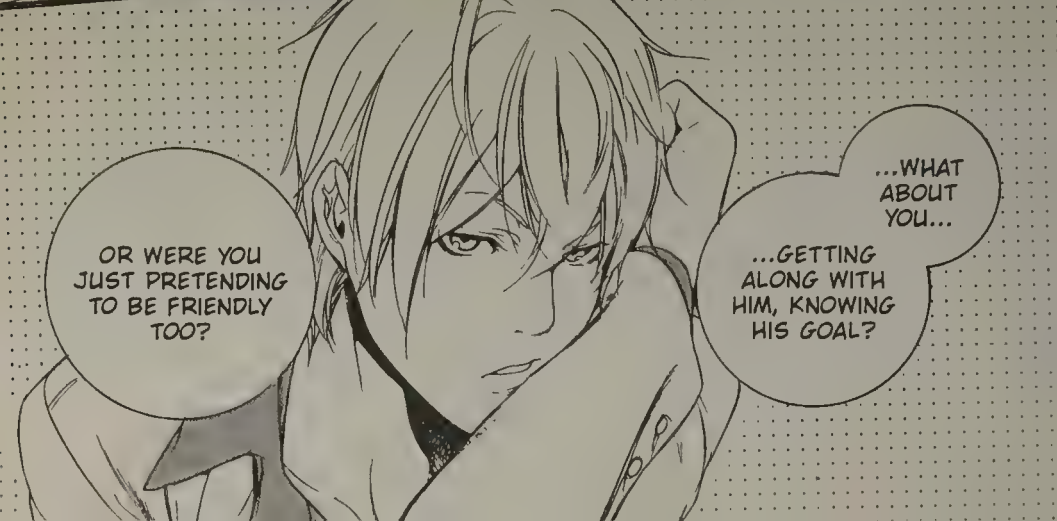
SHUT
UP.

I DIDN'T
KILL HIM!
'COS I'M A
PACIFIST.

SORRY
TO SAY, I'M
NOT ON THE
TASTING
MENU.

IN THE CASE
OF RABBIT,
I'D PREFER
SMOKED
MEAT OVER
STEW.

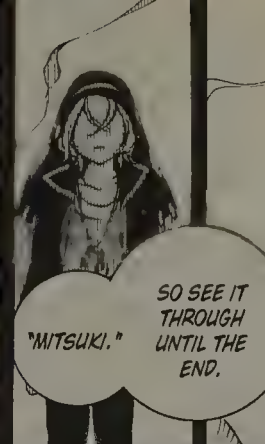
*SURE
ENOUGH,
I CAN'T
STOMACH
YOU.*



OR WERE YOU
JUST PRETENDING
TO BE FRIENDLY
TOO?

...WHAT
ABOUT
YOU...

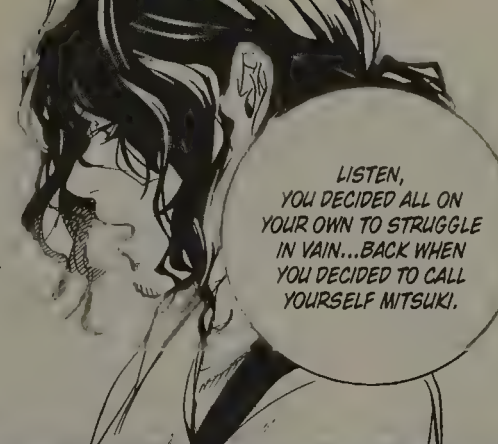
...GETTING
ALONG WITH
HIM, KNOWING
HIS GOAL?



...THERE'S
SOMETHING
I'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO
ASK YOU.

"MITSUKI."

SO SEE IT
THROUGH
UNTIL THE
END.

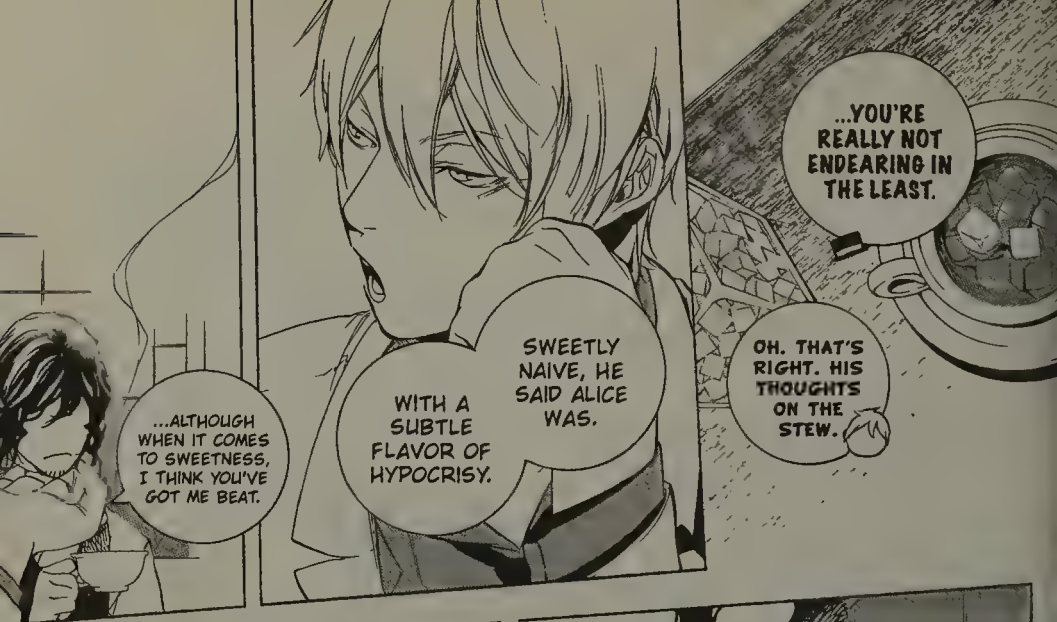


LISTEN,
YOU DECIDED ALL ON
YOUR OWN TO STRUGGLE
IN VAIN...BACK WHEN
YOU DECIDED TO CALL
YOURSELF MITSUKI.



WHAT DOES
IT MEAN TO
"STRUGGLE
IN VAIN"?

...HMM.
I WONDER?



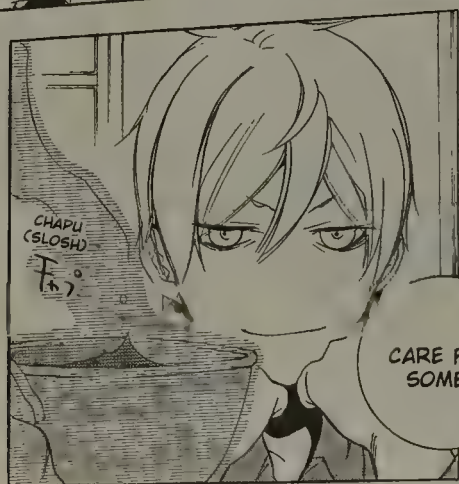
...ALTHOUGH
WHEN IT COMES
TO SWEETNESS,
I THINK YOU'VE
GOT ME BEAT.

WITH A
SUBTLE
FLAVOR OF
HYPOCRISY.

SWEETLY
NAIVE, HE
SAID ALICE
WAS.

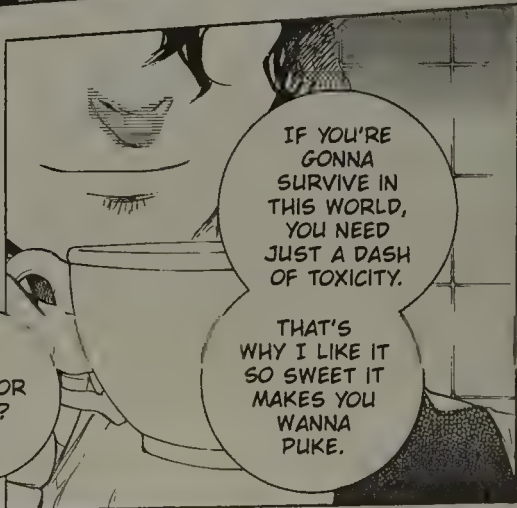
...YOU'RE
REALLY NOT
ENDEARING IN
THE LEAST.

OH. THAT'S
RIGHT. HIS
THOUGHTS
ON THE
STEW.



CHAPU
(SLOSH)
F.

CARE FOR
SOME?

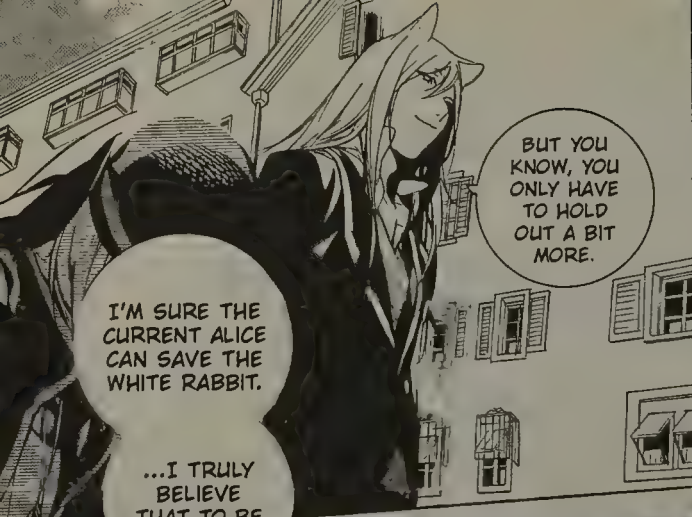


IF YOU'RE
GONNA
SURVIVE IN
THIS WORLD,
YOU NEED
JUST A DASH
OF TOXICITY.

THAT'S
WHY I LIKE IT
SO SWEET IT
MAKES YOU
WANNA
PUKE.

AS IF
I'D WANNA
DRINK A CUP
OF SUGAR
WITH A
SPOONFUL
OF TEA.

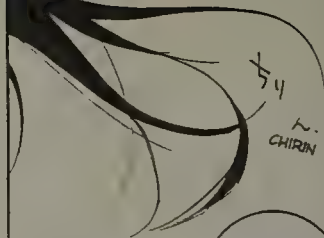
I'LL
PASS.



I'M SURE THE
CURRENT ALICE
CAN SAVE THE
WHITE RABBIT.

...I TRULY
BELIEVE
THAT TO BE
THE CASE.

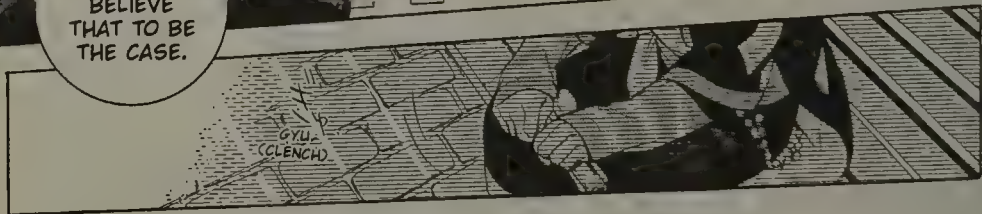
BUT YOU
KNOW, YOU
ONLY HAVE
TO HOLD
OUT A BIT
MORE.



CHIRIN

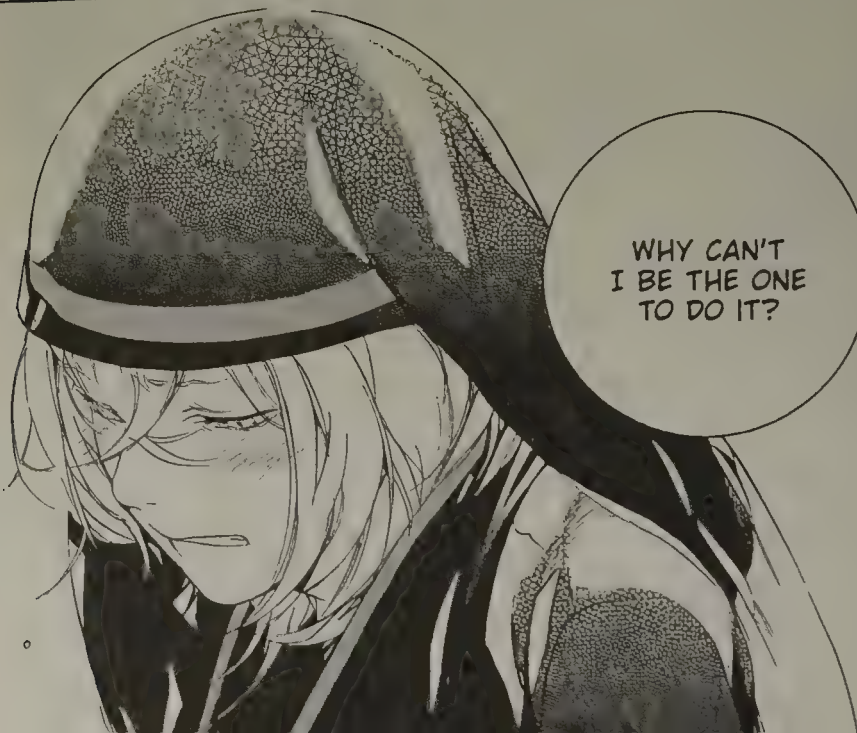
IT'S A
SHAME,
THOUGH,
SINCE HE
FINALLY MADE
A "FRIEND."

'COS I'M
SURE
HE'D GET
SPOILED.

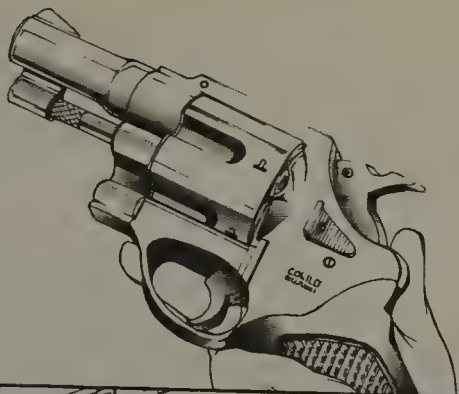


GYU-
(CLENCH)

...IT'S SO
FRUSTRAT-
ING.



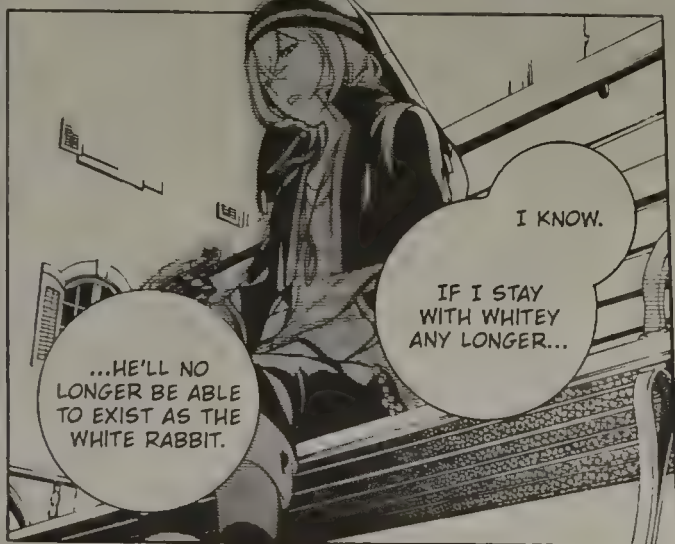
WHY CAN'T
I BE THE ONE
TO DO IT?



WHAT I'M
SUPPOSED TO
ACCOMPLISH AS
THE MARCH
HARE...



...THAT'S
TRUE.

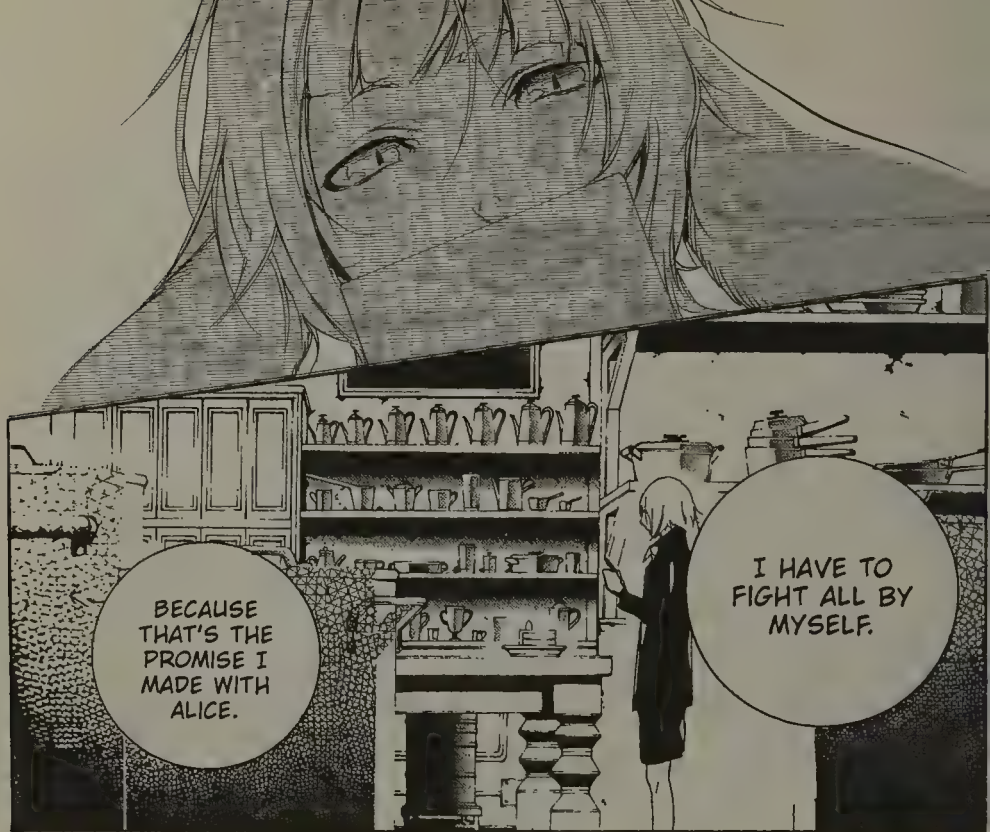


...HE'LL NO
LONGER BE ABLE
TO EXIST AS THE
WHITE RABBIT.

I KNOW.

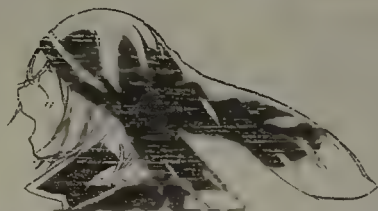
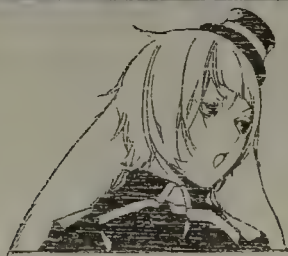
IF I STAY
WITH WHITEY
ANY LONGER...

THINK
CHILDREN
JUNGLES



BECAUSE
THAT'S THE
PROMISE I
MADE WITH
ALICE.

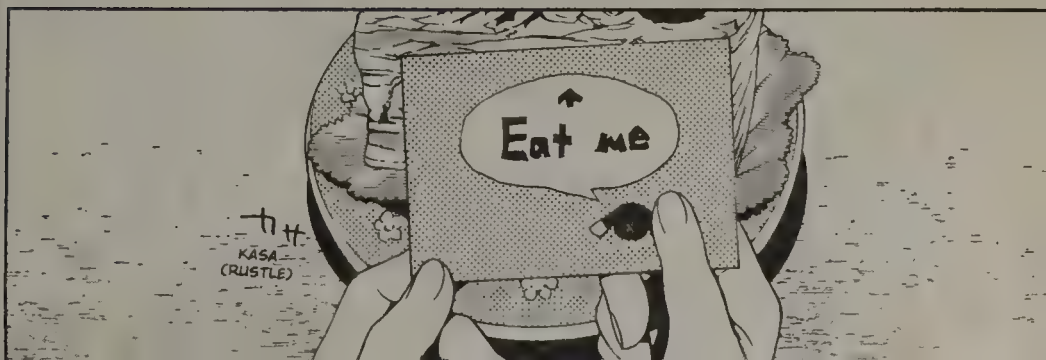
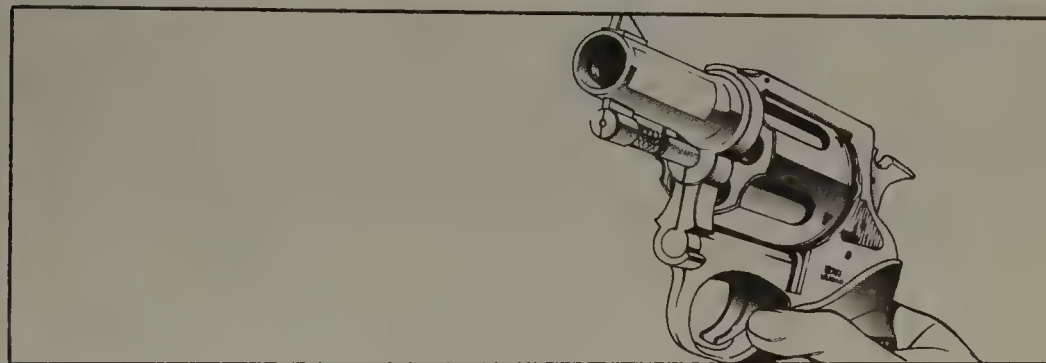
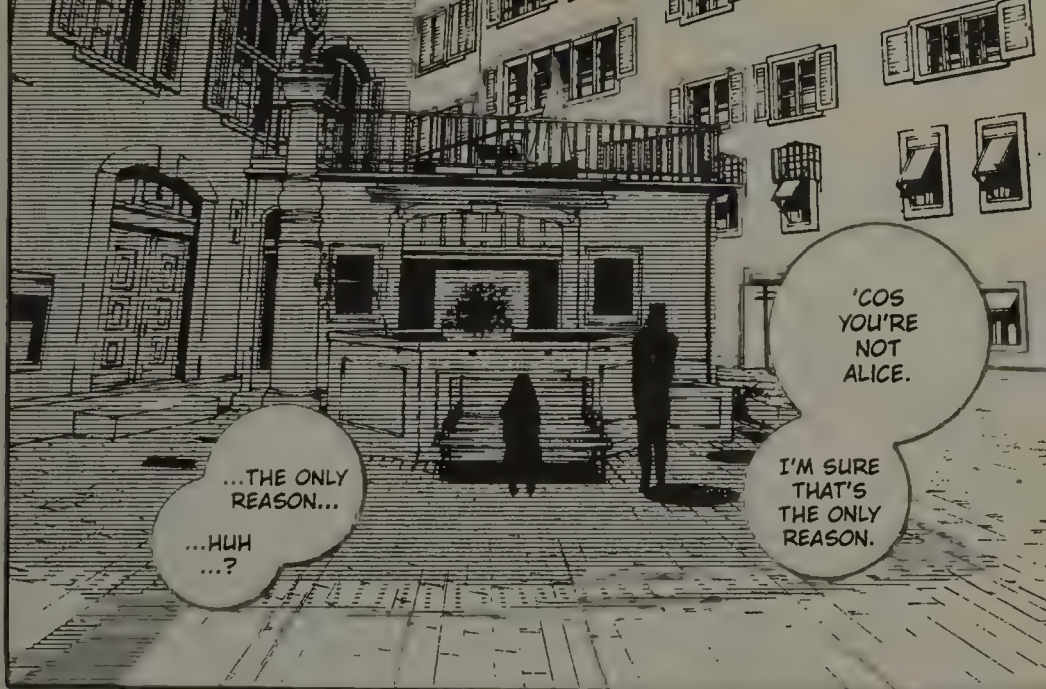
I HAVE TO
FIGHT ALL BY
MYSELF.



IT'S OKAY
IF YOU DON'T
DO ANYTHING.
IT'S OKAY
THAT YOU
CAN'T.

SO KEEP
ON LIVING
UNTIL
THEN.

IT WOULD
BE NICE IF WE
COULD BECOME
FRIENDS AGAIN
AFTER ALL OF
THIS IS OVER.





...I'M
SORRY...

...MITSUKI.

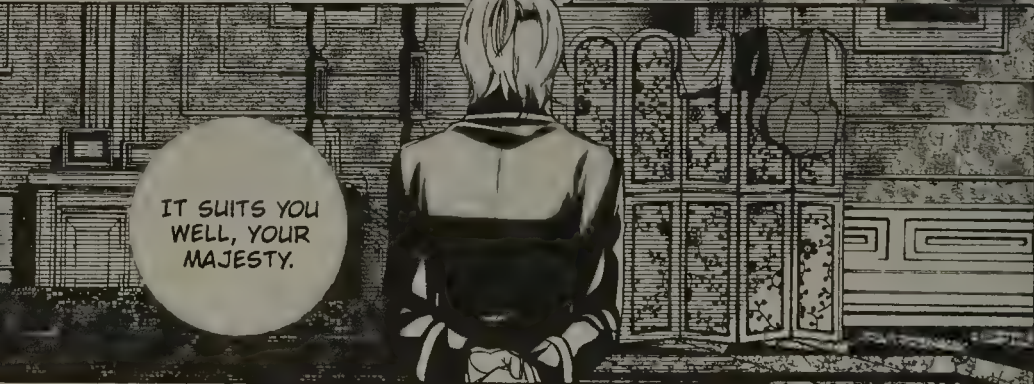
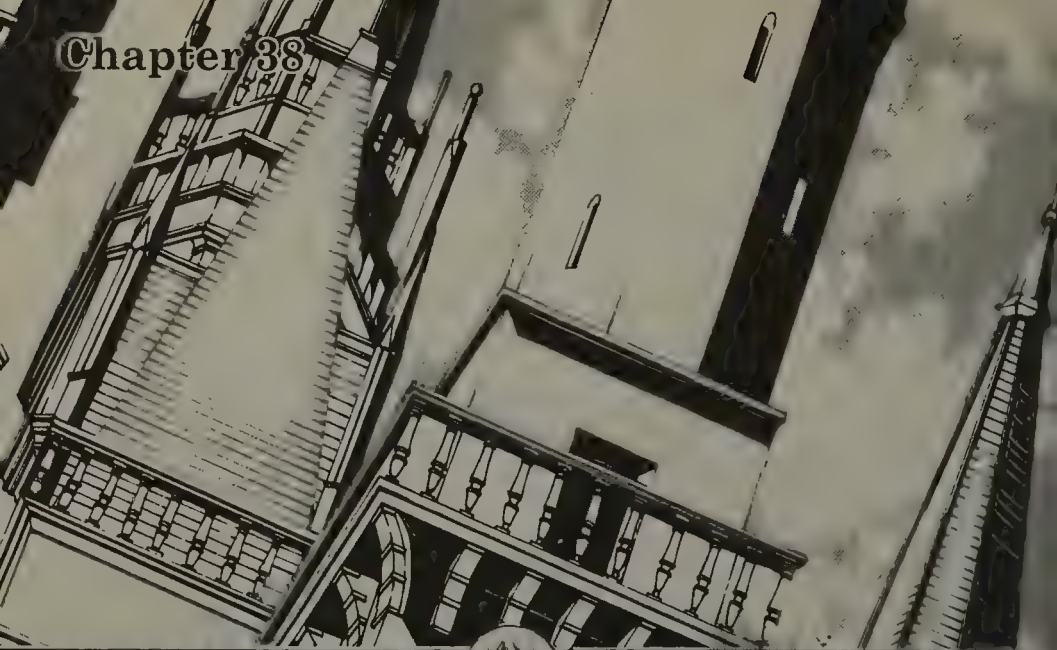
...WHITE
RABBIT.



...ALTHOUGH
I'M SURE
I WON'T
BE AROUND
ANYMORE.

I'M
SORRY...

Chapter 38

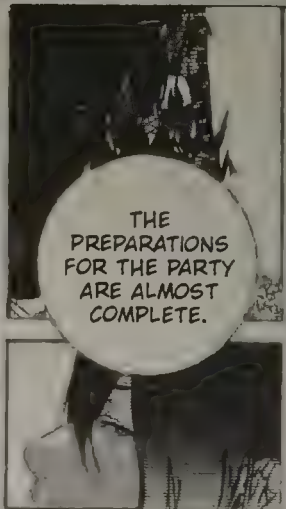


IT SUITS YOU
WELL, YOUR
MAJESTY.

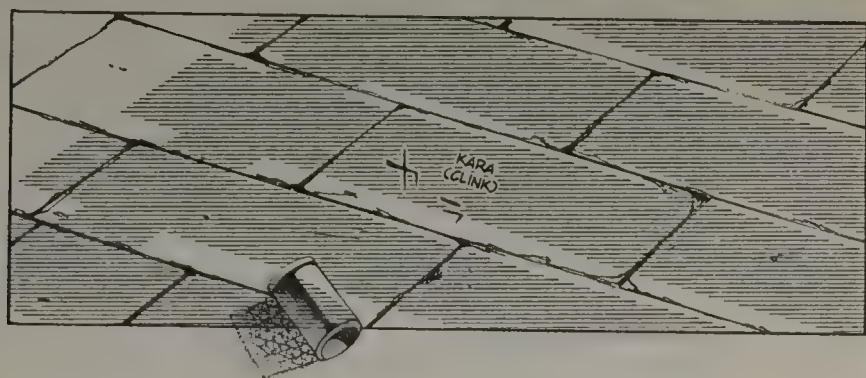


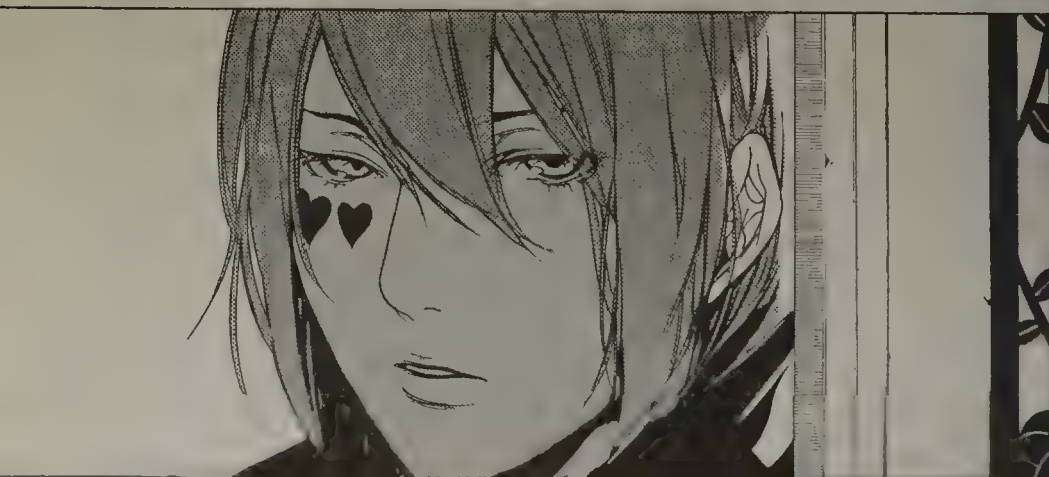
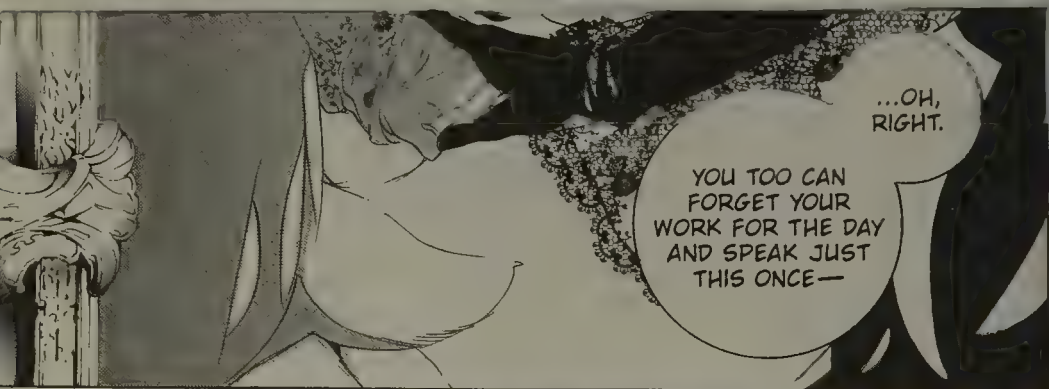
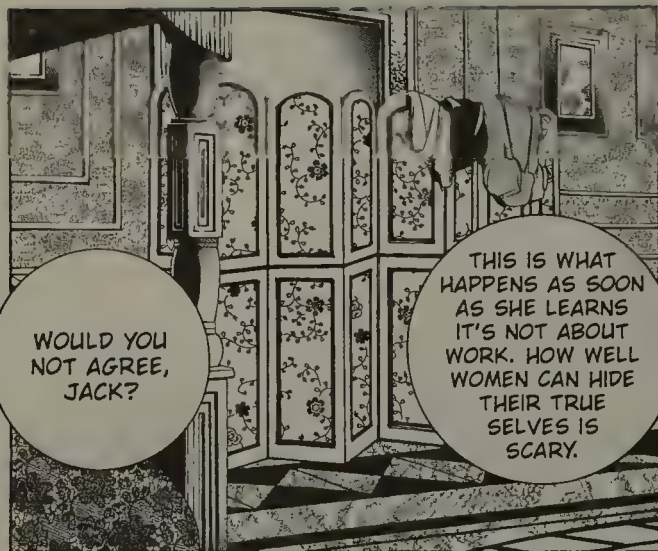
PLEASE
FORGET THE
BURDEN OF YOUR
RESPONSIBILITIES
AND ENJOY
YOURSELF FOR
THE DAY.

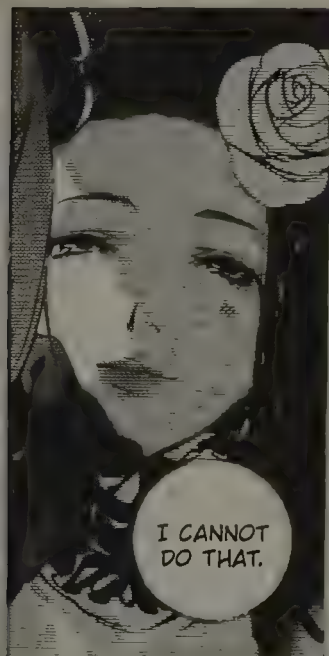
OH!



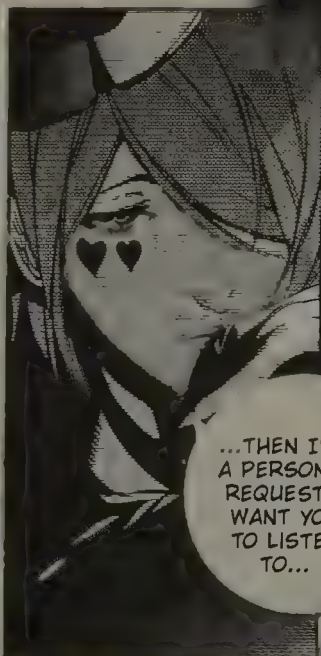
THE
PREPARATIONS
FOR THE PARTY
ARE ALMOST
COMPLETE.







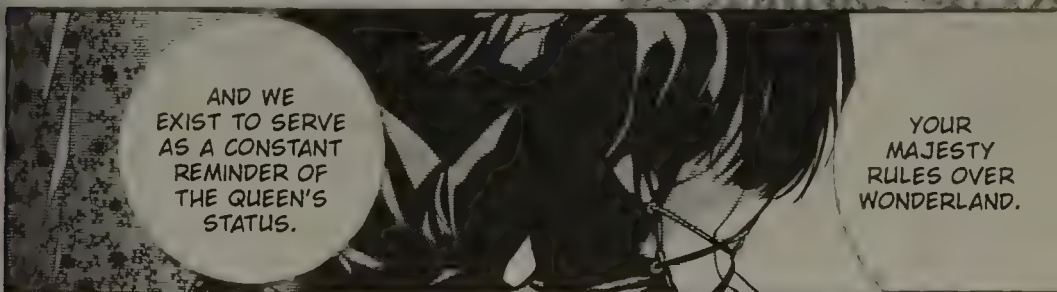
I CANNOT
DO THAT.



...THEN I'VE
A PERSONAL
REQUEST I
WANT YOU
TO LISTEN
TO...

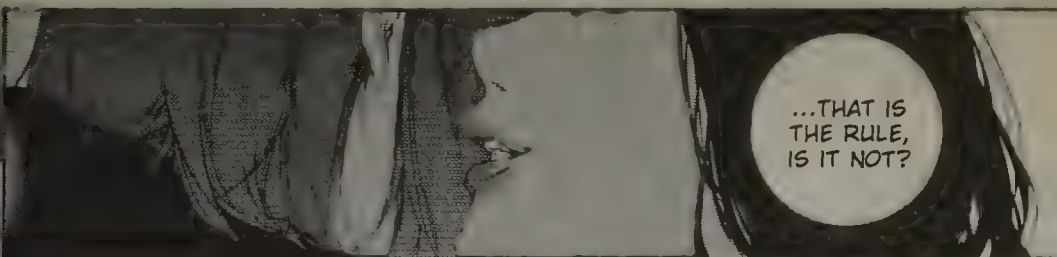
IF IT'S
ALL RIGHT
FOR ME TO
FORGET MY
RESPON-
SIBILITIES...

PASA
(FLAP)



AND WE
EXIST TO SERVE
AS A CONSTANT
REMINDER OF
THE QUEEN'S
STATUS.

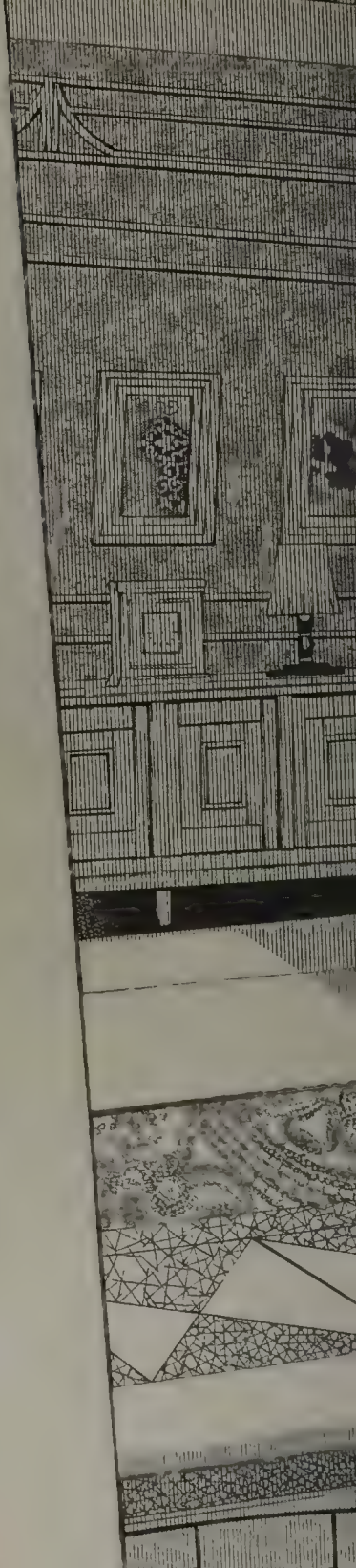
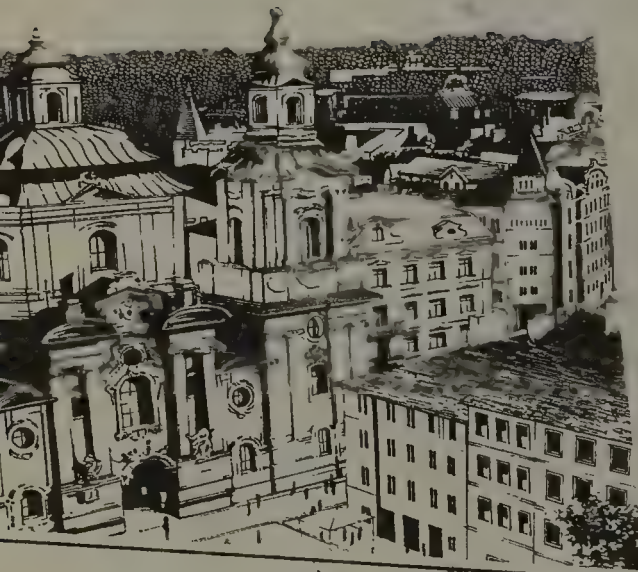
YOUR
MAJESTY
RULES OVER
WONDERLAND.



...THAT IS
THE RULE,
IS IT NOT?

AS YOU
WISH.

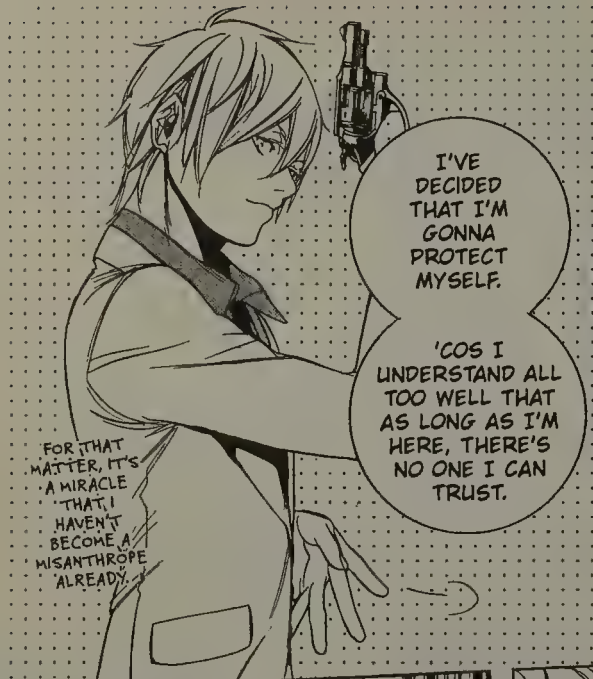
...BEGONE.





JACK?

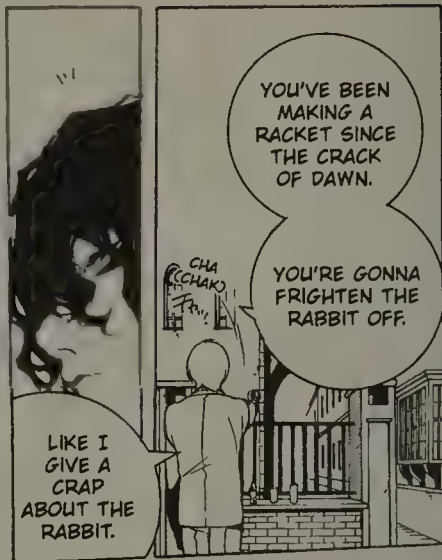
Chapter 38 Cinderella.



I'VE
DECIDED
THAT I'M
GONNA
PROTECT
MYSELF.

'COS I
UNDERSTAND ALL
TOO WELL THAT
AS LONG AS I'M
HERE, THERE'S
NO ONE I CAN
TRUST.

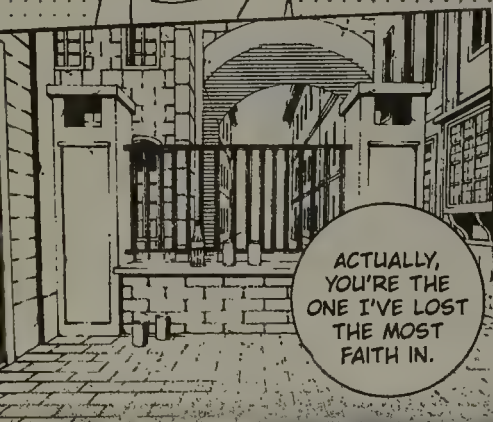
FOR THAT
MATTER, IT'S
A MIRACLE
THAT I
HAVEN'T
BECOME A
MISANTHROPE
ALREADY.



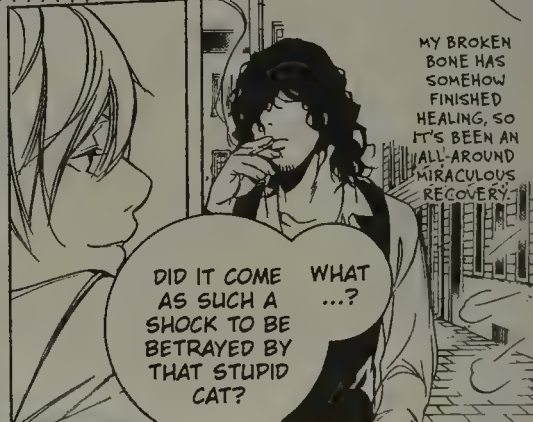
YOU'VE BEEN
MAKING A
RACKET SINCE
THE CRACK
OF DAWN.

YOU'RE GONNA
FRIGHTEN THE
RABBIT OFF.

LIKE I
GIVE A
CRAP
ABOUT THE
RABBIT.



ACTUALLY,
YOU'RE THE
ONE I'VE LOST
THE MOST
FAITH IN.



MY BROKEN
BONE HAS
SOMEHOW
FINISHED
HEALING, SO
IT'S BEEN AN
ALL-AROUND
MIRACULOUS
RECOVERY.

DID IT COME
AS SUCH A
SHOCK TO BE
BETRAYED BY
THAT STUPID
CAT?

WHAT
...?

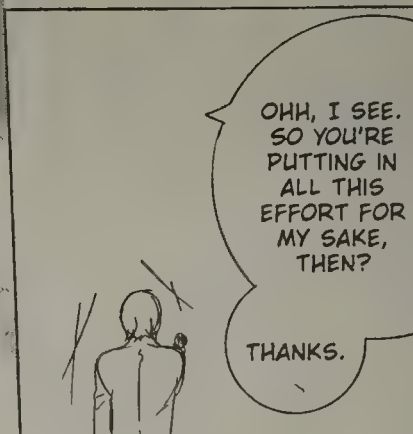
KACHA
(CLACK)

...I QUIT.

I'M TOTALLY
EXHAUSTED.

WHAT THE—?
AT LEAST
WAIT UNTIL
YOU'VE HIT
ONE BEFORE
YOU GIVE UP.

SHUT
UP!



OHH, I SEE.
SO YOU'RE
PUTTING IN
ALL THIS
EFFORT FOR
MY SAKE,
THEN?

THANKS.



I'D EXPECT
NO LESS OF
ALICE. YOU'VE
BECOME A
REAL PRO.

...PERFECT.

FORM,
AT
LEAST.



AUGH,
YOU'RE SO
ANNOYING!

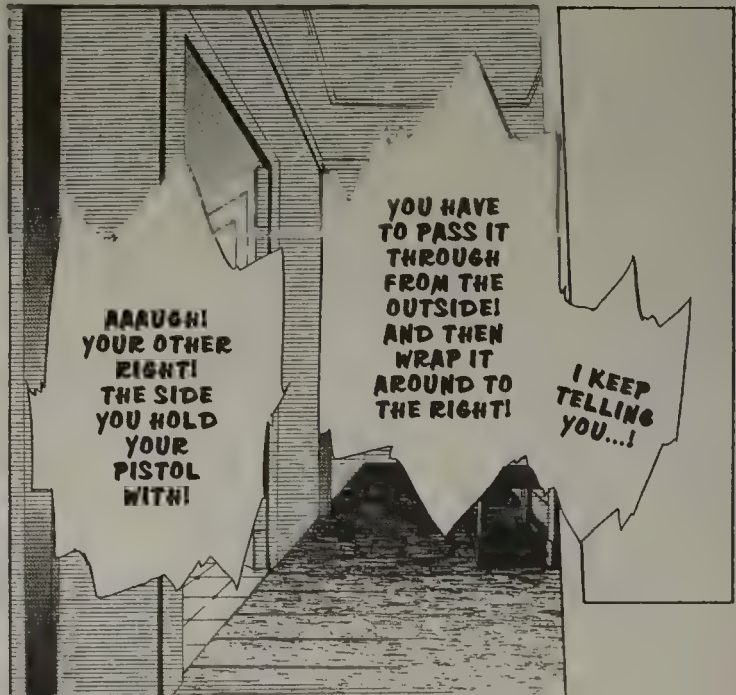
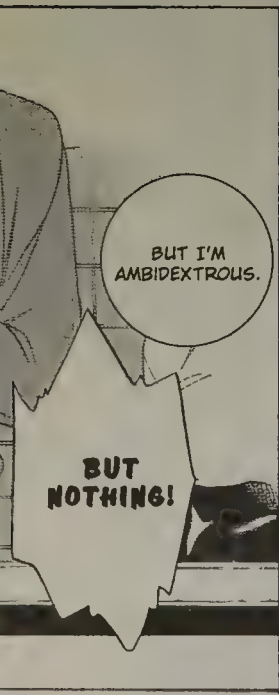
SO...
SINCE
THE VERY
BEGIN-
NING.

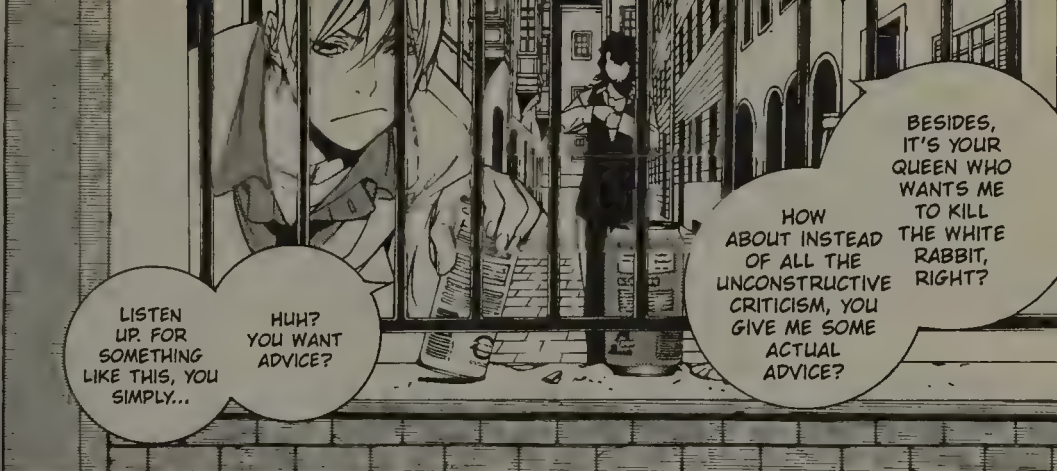
NOT TO
BRAG, BUT
I'VE GOT
A REAL
TALENT FOR
STALKING.

!
YOU...
HOW LONG
HAVE
YOU BEEN
STANDING
THERE, YOU
STALKER!?



...HUH?





LISTEN
UP. FOR
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS, YOU
SIMPLY...

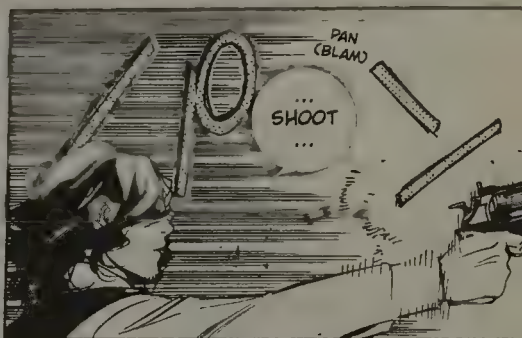
HUH?
YOU WANT
ADVICE?

HOW
ABOUT INSTEAD
OF ALL THE
UNCONSTRUCTIVE
CRITICISM, YOU
GIVE ME SOME
ACTUAL
ADVICE?

BESIDES,
IT'S YOUR
QUEEN WHO
WANTS ME
TO KILL
THE WHITE
RABBIT,
RIGHT?



KAAN
(CLANK)



PAN
(BLAM)

...
SHOOT
...

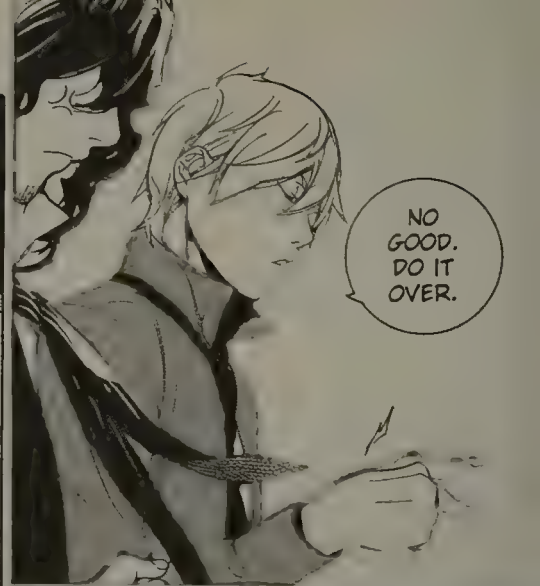
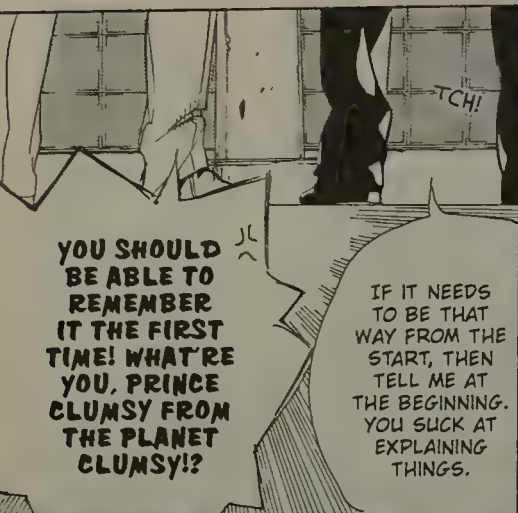


DON'T YOU KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT
PROPER ENGLISH
ETIQUETTE? IF YOU'RE
GOING TO SHOOT,
HIT YOUR MARK.
MORON.

...AND
HIT IT.

IF YOU'RE SO
DETERMINED TO
BE OF USE, THEN
I'LL TELL YOU
ANOTHER WAY
YOU CAN HELP.

WELL, I'M PRETTY
CONFIDENT THAT
IF YOU WERE MY
TARGET, I'D BE ABLE
TO HIT THE MARK...



NO
GOOD.
DO IT
OVER.

YOU SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
REMEMBER
IT THE FIRST
TIME! WHAT'RE
YOU, PRINCE
CLUMSY FROM
THE PLANET
CLUMSY!?

IF IT NEEDS
TO BE THAT
WAY FROM THE
START, THEN
TELL ME AT
THE BEGINNING.
YOU SUCK AT
EXPLAINING
THINGS.



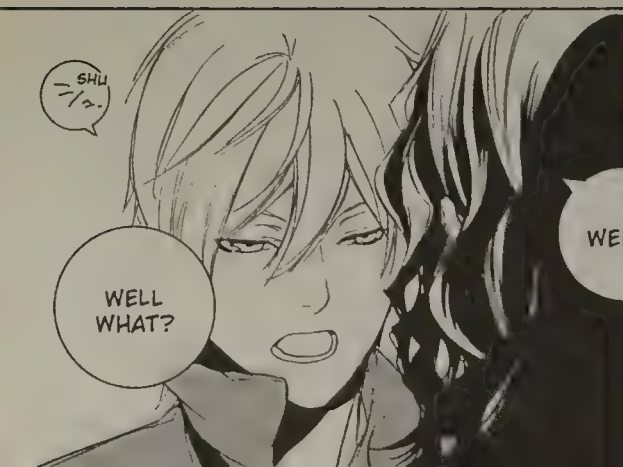
SHUT UP!
ENOUGH WITH
YOUR STUPID
DELUSIONS!

AH! HOW
DARE YOU!?
YOU INTEND
TO STEAL
MY FIRST
TIME!?

AAAGH!
THIS IS A
WASTE OF
TIME! GIVE
IT TO ME!
I'LL DO IT
FOR YOU!

IT WASN'T
MEANT AS
FLATTERY!

ENOUGH
WITH THE
FLATTERY.



SHU
= 1/2

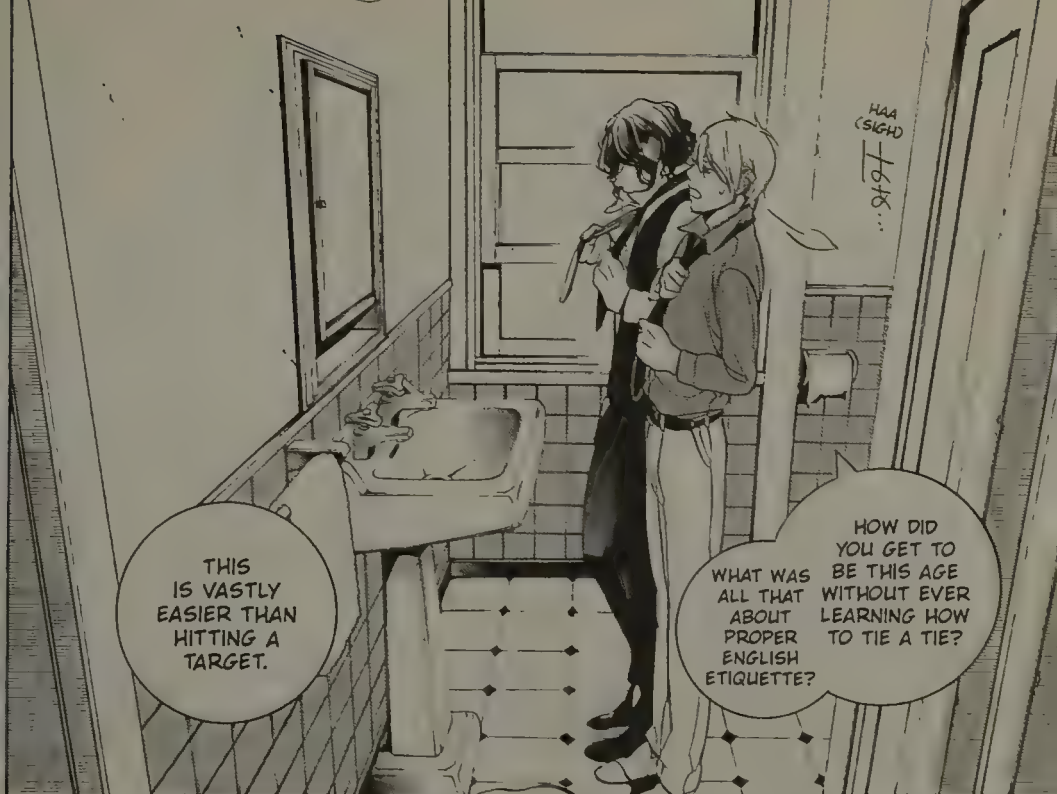
WELL
WHAT?

WELL?



SHURU
(SLIDE)
= 1/2
1/2

SHU
(SHWID)
= 1/2



HAA
(SIGH)
F&X...

THIS
IS VASTLY
EASIER THAN
HITTING A
TARGET.

HOW DID
YOU GET TO
BE THIS AGE
WITHOUT EVER
LEARNING HOW
TO TIE A TIE?
WHAT WAS
ALL THAT
ABOUT
PROPER
ENGLISH
ETIQUETTE?

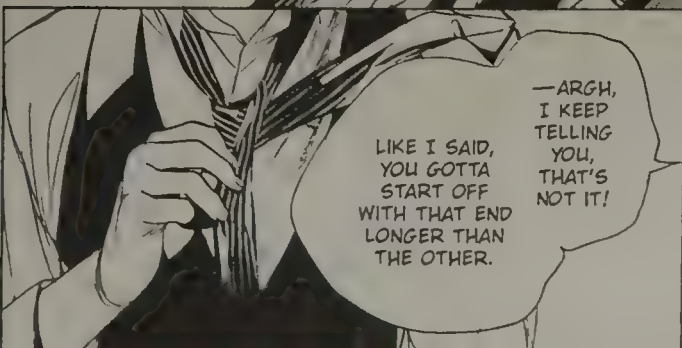


I WANNA
BE ONE OF
THOSE
NAGGING
HUSBANDS.

NOT THAT
I'D KNOW,
BUT THAT
SEEMS LIKE
PIE IN THE
SKY FOR
YOU.

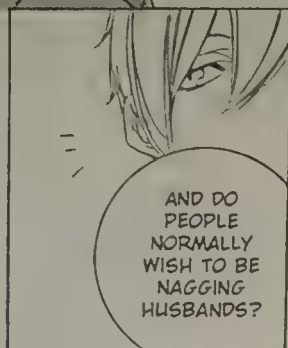
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO GET
YOUR WIFE
TO TIE YOUR
NECKTIE
FOR YOU.

HAH! WHAT
NONSENSE
ARE YOU
SPEWING?



LIKE I SAID,
YOU GOTTA
START OFF
WITH THAT END
LONGER THAN
THE OTHER.

—ARGH,
I KEEP
TELLING
YOU,
THAT'S
NOT IT!



AND DO
PEOPLE
NORMALLY
WISH TO BE
NAGGING
HUSBANDS?

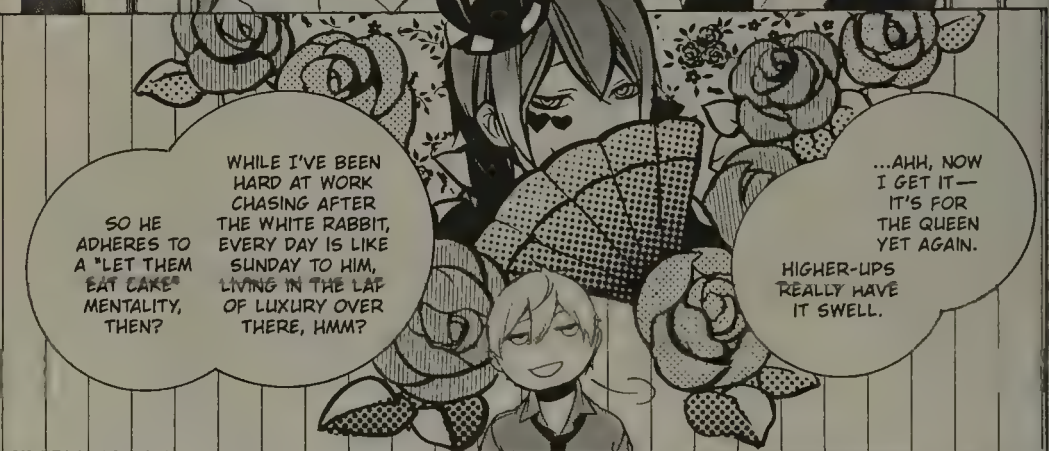


YEAH,
HOSTED
BY THE
QUEEN.

A PARTY?

A PARTY THAT ALL
THE RESIDENTS OF
THIS LAND ARE TO
ATTEND IS BEING
THROWN TODAY.

AND IT'S A
STRICTLY
"NO TIE, NO
ENTRY"
AFFAIR.

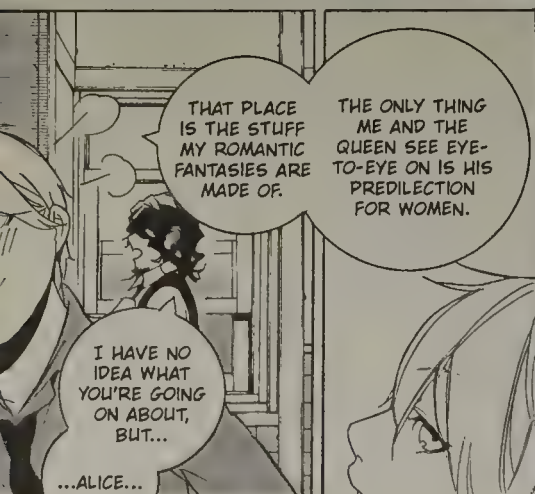


SO HE
ADHERES TO
A "LET THEM
EAT CAKE"
MENTALITY,
THEN?

WHILE I'VE BEEN
HARD AT WORK
CHASING AFTER
THE WHITE RABBIT,
EVERY DAY IS LIKE
SUNDAY TO HIM,
LIVING IN THE LAF
OF LUXURY OVER
THERE, HMM?

...AHH, NOW
I GET IT—
IT'S FOR
THE QUEEN
YET AGAIN.

HIGHER-UPS
REALLY HAVE
IT SWELL.

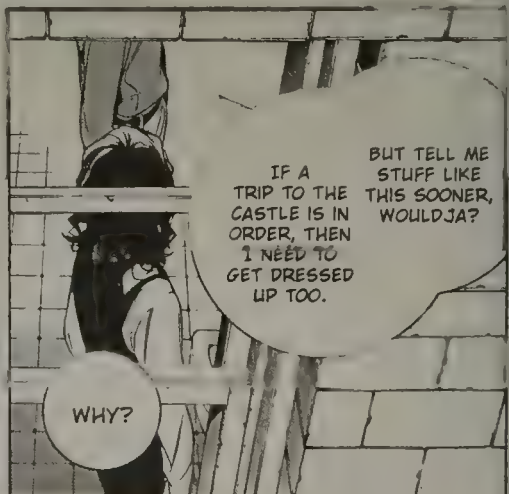


THAT PLACE
IS THE STUFF
MY ROMANTIC
FANTASIES ARE
MADE OF.

THE ONLY THING
ME AND THE
QUEEN SEE EYE-
TO-EYE ON IS HIS
PREDILECTION
FOR WOMEN.

I HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
YOU'RE GOING
ON ABOUT,
BUT...

...ALICE...



IF A
TRIP TO THE
CASTLE IS IN
ORDER, THEN
I NEED TO
GET DRESSED
UP TOO.

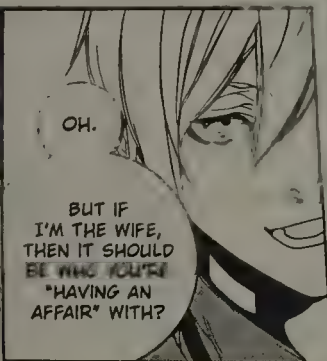
BUT TELL ME
STUFF LIKE
THIS SOONER,
WOULDA?

WHY?



—THERE,
ALL DONE.

KYU
(TUG)



OH.

BUT IF
I'M THE WIFE,
THEN IT SHOULD
BE WHO YOU'RE
"HAVING AN
AFFAIR" WITH?

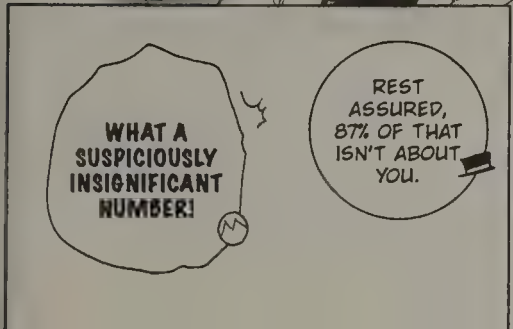


THIS ALICE IS
GOING OUT OF THE
WAY TO INSTRUCT
YOU ON LOOKING
LIKE A SHARPLY-
DRESSED ENGLISH
GENTLEMAN...

...SO YOU
SHOULD AT
LEAST TELL
ME WHO IT IS
YOU'RE GOING
ON A DATE
WITH.



I'M LOYAL
TO ALICE
UNTIL THE
VERY END.

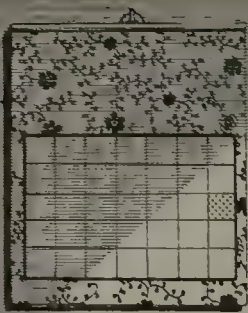


WHAT A
SUSPICIOUSLY
INSIGNIFICANT
NUMBER!

REST
ASSURED,
87% OF THAT
ISN'T ABOUT
YOU.



...DON'T
RESPOND SO
SINCERELY.
IT'S CREEPY.



E...

FI...

...XED...

...HOLI...

...DAAAY?



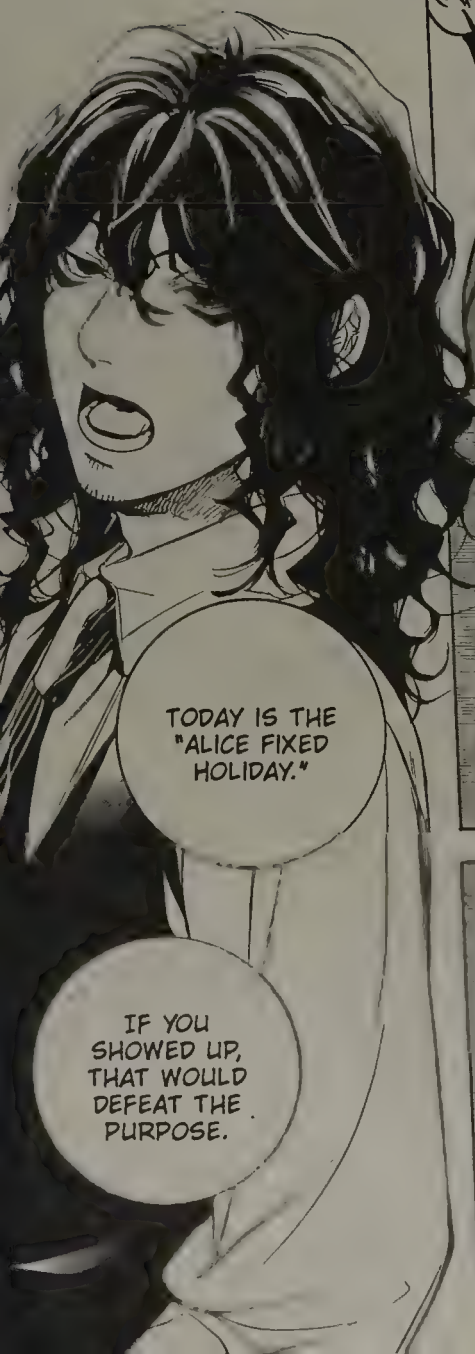
Alice
fixed
holiday

SHEESH,
YOU REALLY
ARE AN
UNEDUCATED
BRAT.

HOW COULD YOU
NOT LEARN ABOUT
THE NATIONAL
HOLIDAYS HERE?
THAT'S COMMON
SENSE.

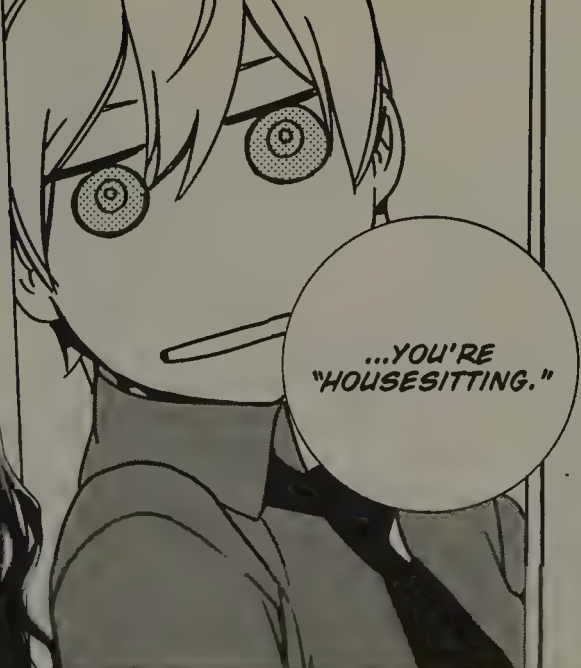
ABOUT 87%
OF THE THINGS
CONSIDERED
TO BE "COMMON
SENSE" IN THIS
LAND ARE
COMPLETELY
LACKING IN
ANY SENSE
WHATSOEVER!

HOW THE
HELL
WOULD I
KNOW!?

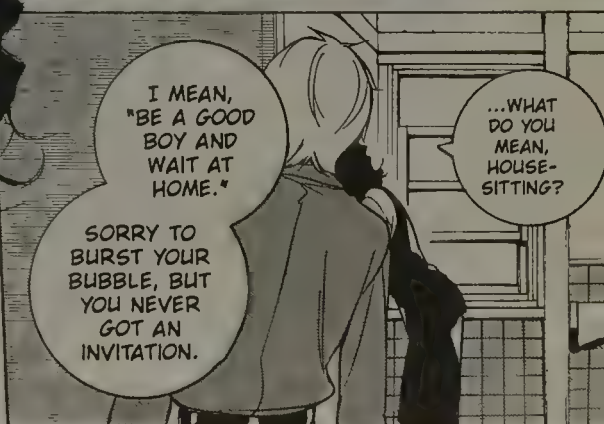


TODAY IS THE
"ALICE FIXED
HOLIDAY."

IF YOU
SHOWED UP,
THAT WOULD
DEFEAT THE
PURPOSE.



...YOU'RE
"HOUSESITTING."



I MEAN,
"BE A GOOD
BOY AND
WAIT AT
HOME."

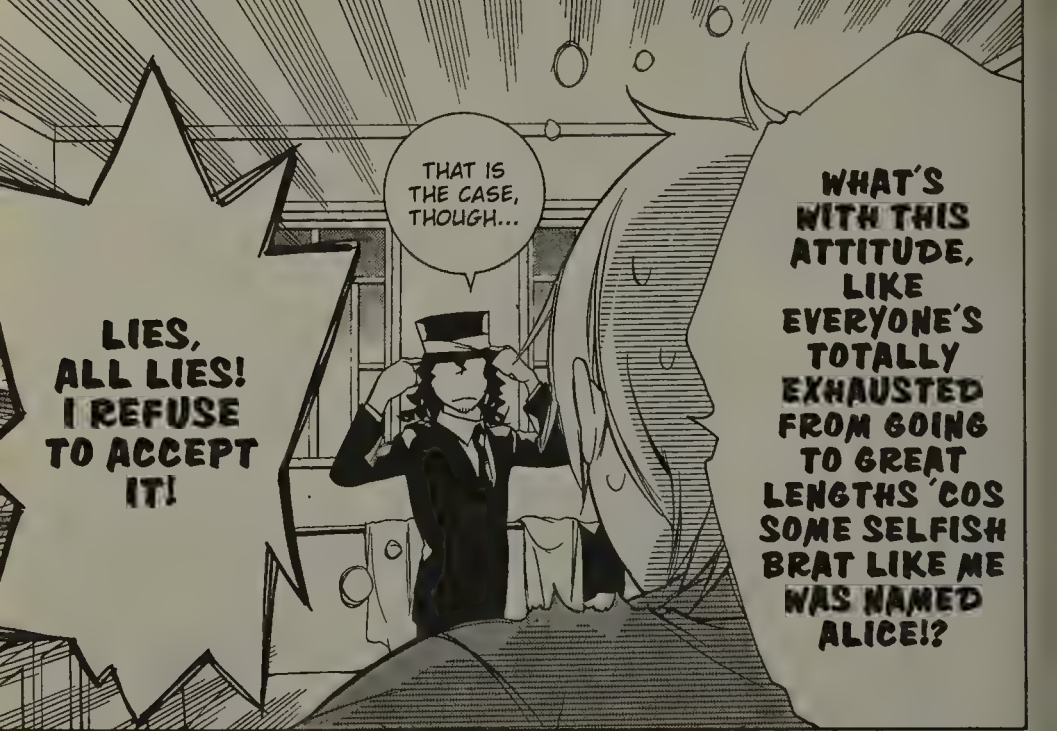
SORRY TO
BURST YOUR
BUBBLE, BUT
YOU NEVER
GOT AN
INVITATION.

...WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
HOUSE-
SITTING?



EXCEEPT
...

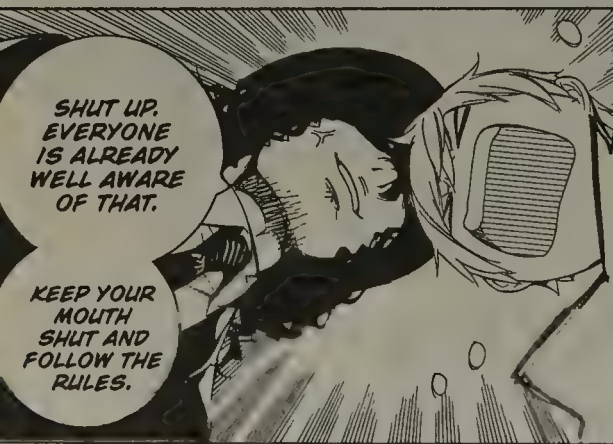
...WAIT, BUT
YOU JUST
SAID ALL THE
RESIDENTS
IN THE LAND
ATTEND!



**LIES,
ALL LIES!
I REFUSE
TO ACCEPT
IT!**

THAT IS
THE CASE,
THOUGH...

**WHAT'S
WITH THIS
ATTITUDE,
LIKE
EVERYONE'S
TOTALLY
EXHAUSTED
FROM GOING
TO GREAT
LENGTHS 'COS
SOME SELFISH
BRAT LIKE ME
WAS NAMED
ALICE!?**

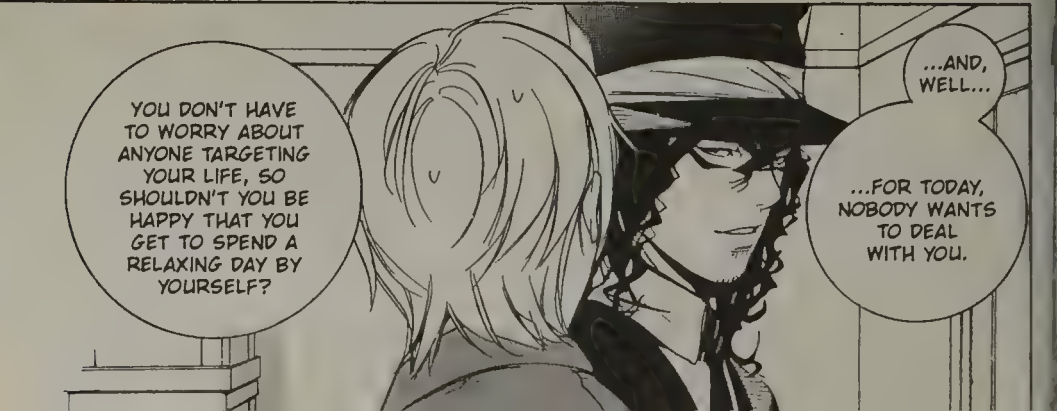


**SHUT UP.
EVERYONE
IS ALREADY
WELL AWARE
OF THAT.**

**KEEP YOUR
MOUTH
SHUT AND
FOLLOW THE
RULES.**

**THAT NO
MATTER
HOW HARD
I TRY,
CAN'T I
BECOME
ALICE!?**

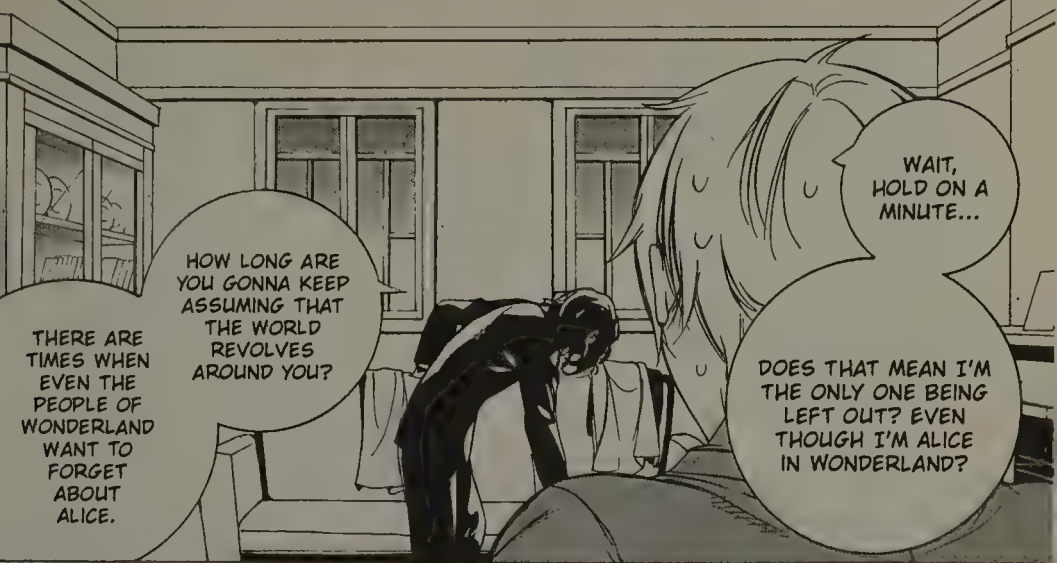
**BESIDES,
IT WAS THAT
DAMN QUEEN
WHO APPROVED
OF ME BEING
ALICE! IT'S
NOT LIKE I
BECAME ALICE
'COS I WANTED
TO! AND YOU
THINK SO TOO,
DON'T YOU!?**



**YOU DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY ABOUT
ANYONE TARGETING
YOUR LIFE, SO
SHOULDN'T YOU BE
HAPPY THAT YOU
GET TO SPEND A
RELAXING DAY BY
YOURSELF?**

...AND,
WELL...

**...FOR TODAY,
NOBODY WANTS
TO DEAL
WITH YOU.**



WAIT,
HOLD ON A
MINUTE...

HOW LONG ARE
YOU GONNA KEEP
ASSUMING THAT
THE WORLD
REVOLVES
AROUND YOU?

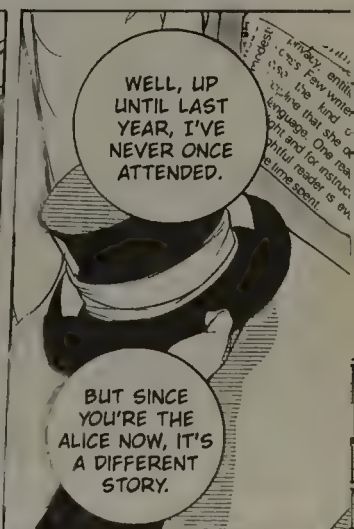
THERE ARE
TIMES WHEN
EVEN THE
PEOPLE OF
WONDERLAND
WANT TO
FORGET
ABOUT
ALICE.

DOES THAT MEAN I'M
THE ONLY ONE BEING
LEFT OUT? EVEN
THOUGH I'M ALICE
IN WONDERLAND?



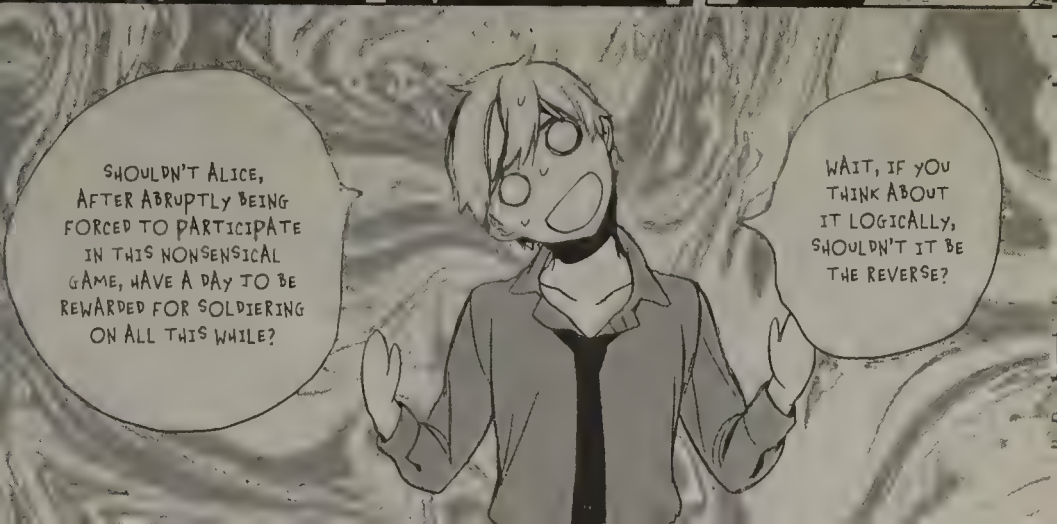
**WHAT
THE
HELL!?**

I'D ALSO LIKE
TO FORGET
ABOUT YOUR
EXISTENCE
FOR A DAY.



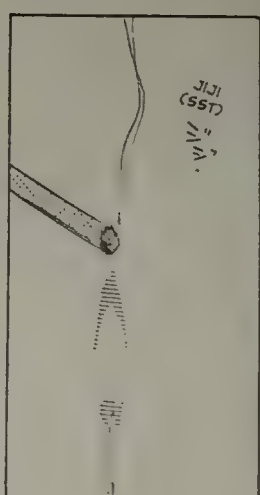
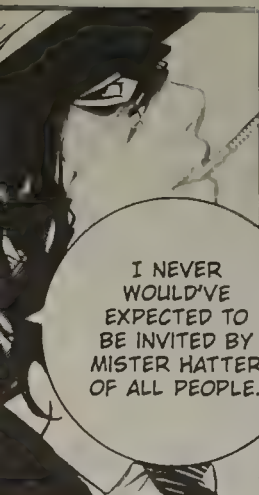
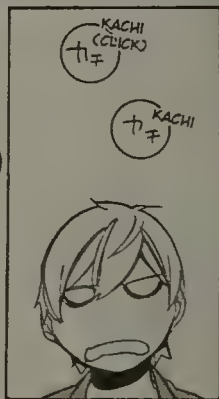
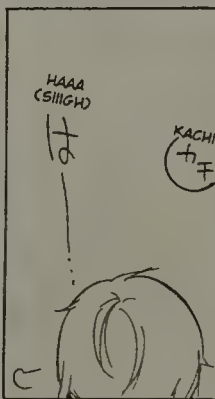
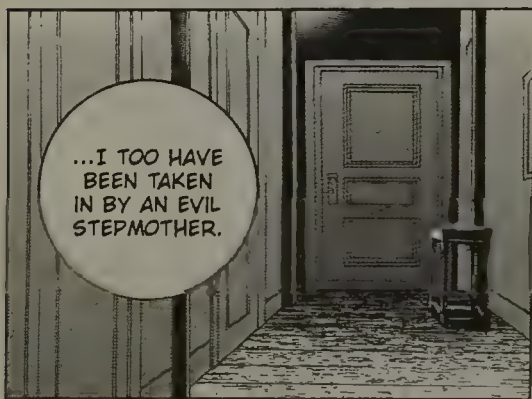
WELL, UP
UNTIL LAST
YEAR, I'VE
NEVER ONCE
ATTENDED.

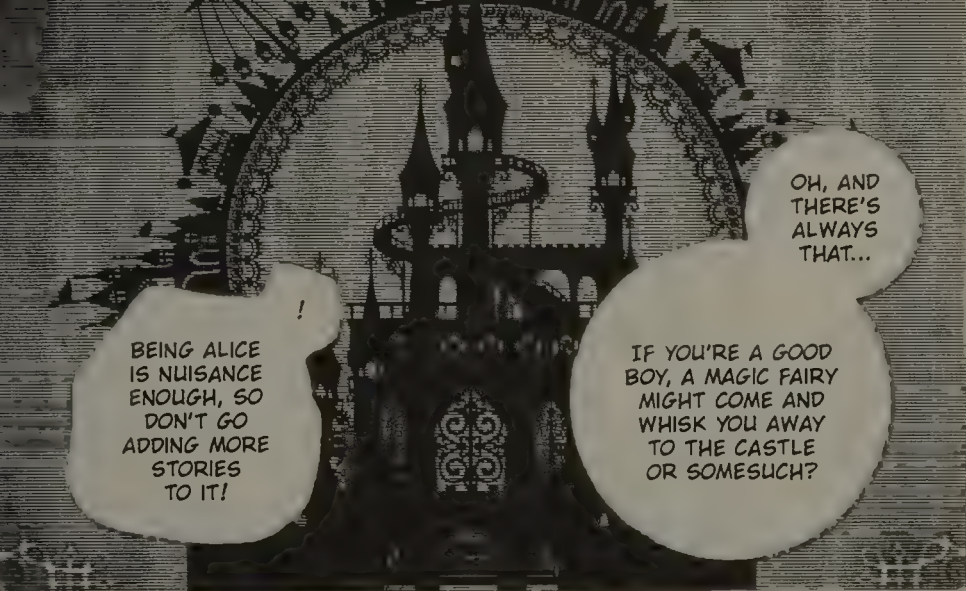
BUT SINCE
YOU'RE THE
ALICE NOW, IT'S
A DIFFERENT
STORY.



SHOULDN'T ALICE,
AFTER ABRUPTLY BEING
FORCED TO PARTICIPATE
IN THIS NONSENSICAL
GAME, HAVE A DAY TO BE
REWARDED FOR SOLDIERING
ON ALL THIS WHILE?

WAIT, IF YOU
THINK ABOUT
IT LOGICALLY,
SHOULDN'T IT BE
THE REVERSE?

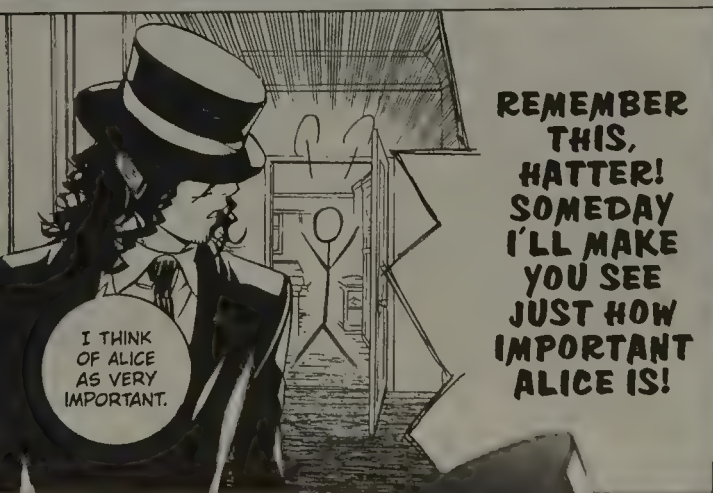




BEING ALICE
IS NUISANCE
ENOUGH, SO
DON'T GO
ADDING MORE
STORIES
TO IT!

OH, AND
THERE'S
ALWAYS
THAT...

IF YOU'RE A GOOD
BOY, A MAGIC FAIRY
MIGHT COME AND
WHISK YOU AWAY
TO THE CASTLE
OR SOMESUCH?

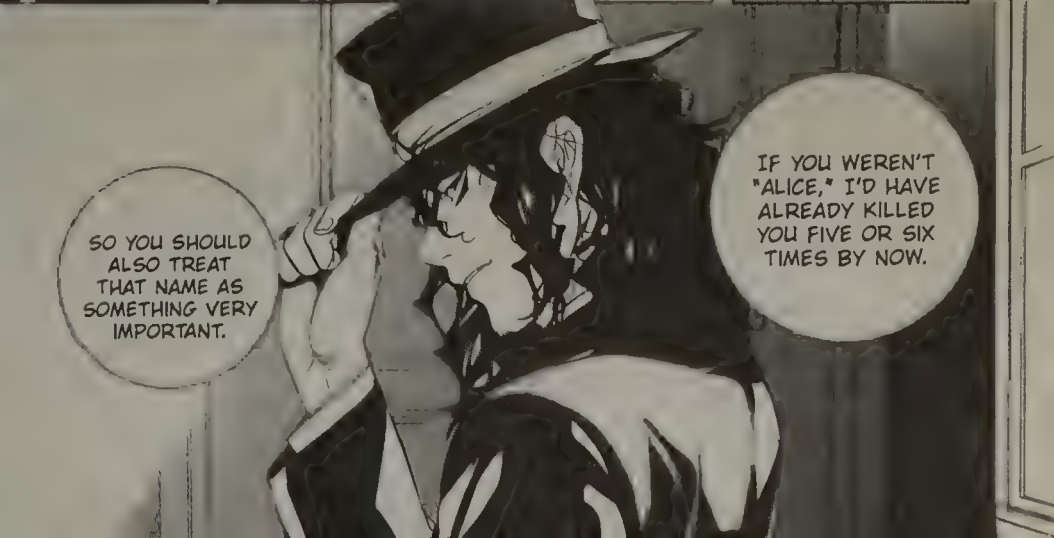


I THINK
OF ALICE
AS VERY
IMPORTANT.

REMEMBER
THIS,
HATTER!
SOMEDAY
I'LL MAKE
YOU SEE
JUST HOW
IMPORTANT
ALICE IS!



DAMMIT,
TREATING
ME LIKE A
IDIOT...



SO YOU SHOULD
ALSO TREAT
THAT NAME AS
SOMETHING VERY
IMPORTANT.

IF YOU WEREN'T
"ALICE," I'D HAVE
ALREADY KILLED
YOU FIVE OR SIX
TIMES BY NOW.



WHEN IT
COMES TO
THE RULES OF
WONDERLAND,
I FOLLOW
THEM TO THE
LETTER.

I'M NOT
ALLOWED TO
GO AFTER
ALICE TODAY,
RIGHT?

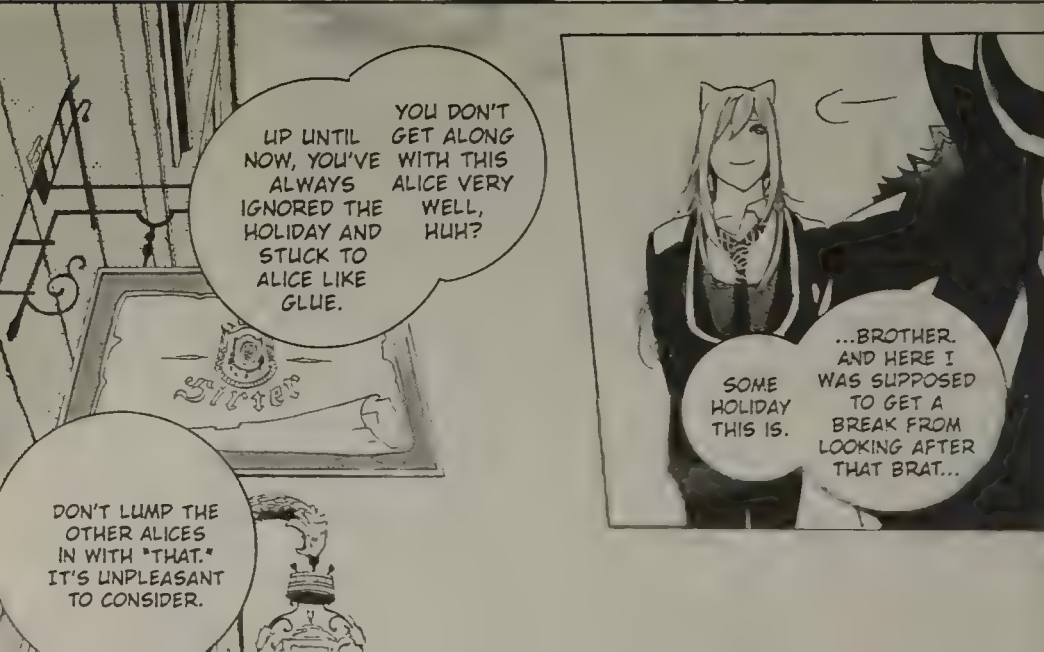
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT ME, YOU
KNOW? A CAT
IS PERFECTLY
CAPABLE OF
STAYING HOME
ALONE.



JUST STAY
WHERE I CAN
KEEP AN EYE
ON YOU.

CRAM
IT.

I DON'T TRUST
A SINGLE THING
ABOUT YOU, LEAST
OF ALL THE CRAP
THAT SPEWS FROM
YOUR MOUTH.



UP UNTIL
NOW, YOU'VE
ALWAYS
IGNORED THE
HOLIDAY AND
STUCK TO
ALICE LIKE
GLUE.

YOU DON'T
GET ALONG
WITH THIS
ALICE VERY
WELL,
HUH?

DON'T LUMP THE
OTHER ALICES
IN WITH "THAT."
IT'S UNPLEASANT
TO CONSIDER.

SOME
HOLIDAY
THIS IS.

...BROTHER.
AND HERE I
WAS SUPPOSED
TO GET A
BREAK FROM
LOOKING AFTER
THAT BRAT...

SEE ANY
PROBLEM
WITH
THAT?

"ALL THE
PEOPLE OF
WONDERLAND
ARE TO
ATTEND."

OHH, I SEE.
SO THE
PROBLEM
IS THAT I'M
A "CAT."

FULL
(FWOO)
7

BUT I
WONDER WHY
NO INVITATION
EVER CAME
FOR ME?

PERHAPS
IT GOT
LOST IN
THE MAIL?

I'LL
KILL
YOU.

MAKES
SENSE.
I DO IT ON
PURPOSE.

...IS
WHAT AN
ACQUAIN-
TANCE
OF MINE
TOLD ME.

...YOU KNOW,
THAT ATTITUDE,
LIKE IT'D KILL
YOU TO READ
THE ROOM, IS
SO IRRITATING IT
MAKES PEOPLE
WANNA KILL
YOU.

GURI
(GRIND)

PI
(FLICK)

I THOUGHT
WE WERE
TALKING
ABOUT AN
ACQUAIN-
TANCE?

YOU'RE LAX
AS EVER, EVEN
WHEN IT COMES
TO UPHOLDING
YOUR OWN RULES,
MISTER HATTER.



IT
SEEMS LIKE HE'S
FEELING A LITTLE
GUILTY ABOUT
SHOOTING OFF
YOUR ARM.

SO...

SPEAKING
OF HIM...



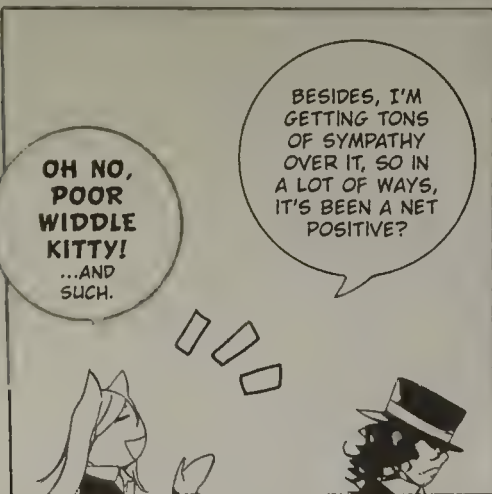
OH,
SORRY.

IT'S LIKE YOU
SAID...I DIDN'T
REALLY READ
THE ROOM
JUST NOW.

TCH!

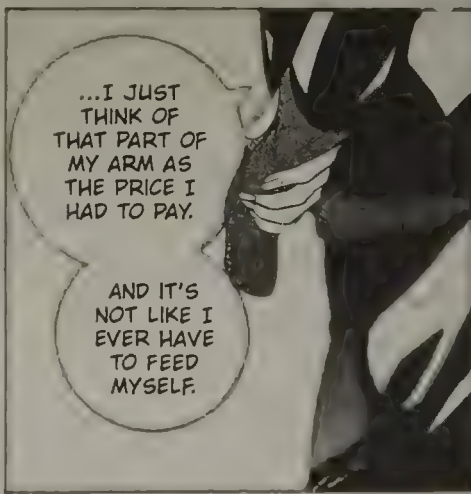
YEAH,
I KNOW.

'COS I'M
SURPRISINGLY
BELOVED
TO ALICE.



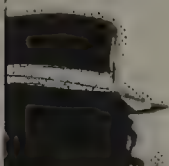
OH NO,
POOR
WIDDLE
KITTY!
...AND
SUCH.

BESIDES, I'M
GETTING TONS
OF SYMPATHY
OVER IT, SO IN
A LOT OF WAYS,
IT'S BEEN A NET
POSITIVE?



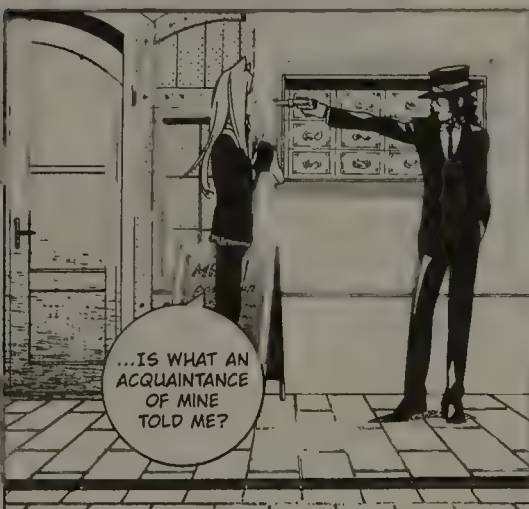
...I JUST
THINK OF
THAT PART OF
MY ARM AS
THE PRICE I
HAD TO PAY.

AND IT'S
NOT LIKE I
EVER HAVE
TO FEED
MYSELF.

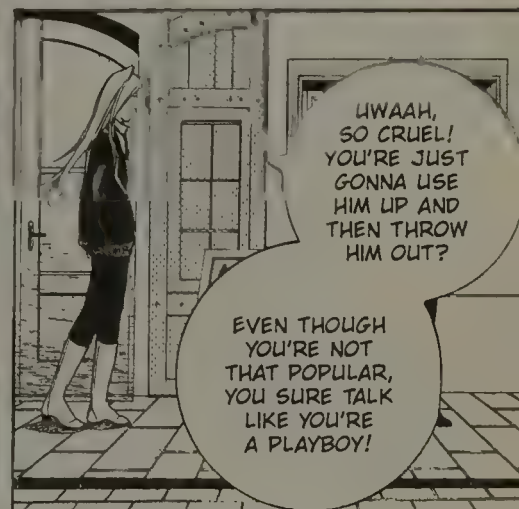


IF I DIDN'T,
THERE'D BE
NO POINT IN
KEEPING HIM
ALIVE, NOW
WOULD
THERE?

—BUT YOU
HAVE A USE
FOR HIM,
DON'T YOU?

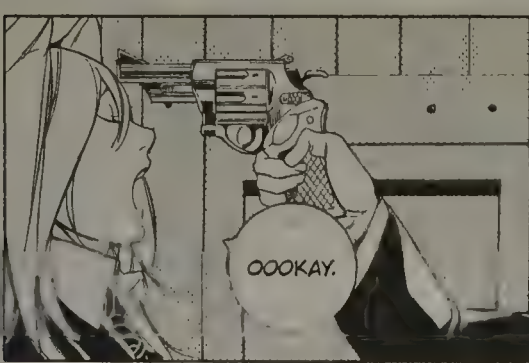


...IS WHAT AN
ACQUAINTANCE
OF MINE
TOLD ME?

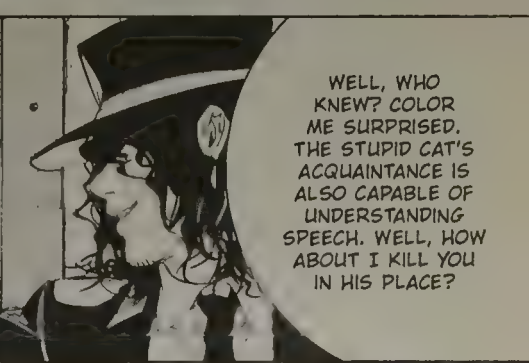


UWAAH,
SO CRUEL!
YOU'RE JUST
GONNA USE
HIM UP AND
THEN THROW
HIM OUT?

EVEN THOUGH
YOU'RE NOT
THAT POPULAR,
YOU SURE TALK
LIKE YOU'RE
A PLAYBOY!

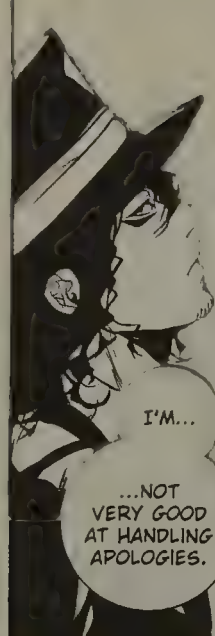


OOOKAY.



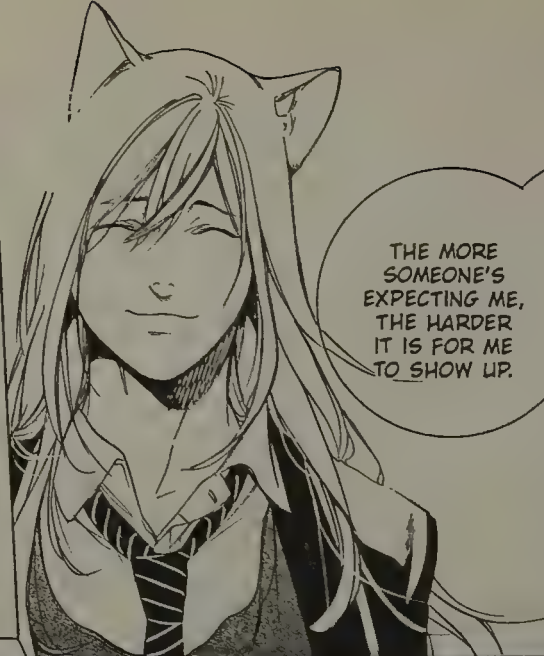
WELL, WHO
KNEW? COLOR
ME SURPRISED.
THE STUPID CAT'S
ACQUAINTANCE IS
ALSO CAPABLE OF
UNDERSTANDING
SPEECH. WELL, HOW
ABOUT I KILL YOU
IN HIS PLACE?





I'M...

...NOT
VERY GOOD
AT HANDLING
APOLOGIES.



THE MORE
SOMEONE'S
EXPECTING ME,
THE HARDER
IT IS FOR ME
TO SHOW UP.

THEN YOU
SHOULD GIVE
OUR DEAR
ALICE SOME
ADVICE.



HONESTLY, I'D
PREFER THAT HE
HATED ME. IT'D
BE EASIER...

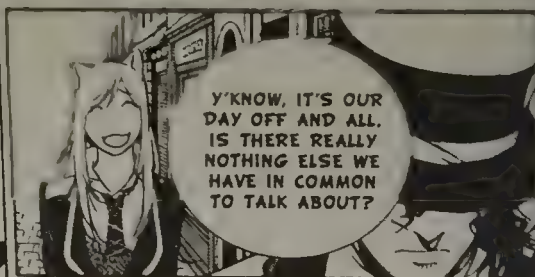


I NEVER
KNOW WHAT
EXPRESSION
TO MAKE IN
THE MOMENT.

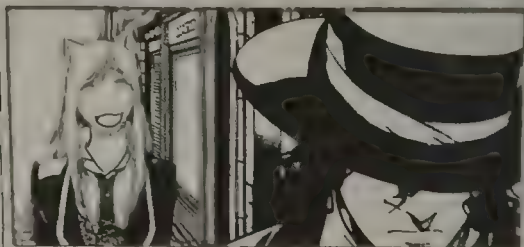


...CAT
STEW.

I WONDER
IF IT'D
TASTE ANY
GOOD?



Y'KNOW, IT'S OUR
DAY OFF AND ALL.
IS THERE REALLY
NOTHING ELSE WE
HAVE IN COMMON
TO TALK ABOUT?

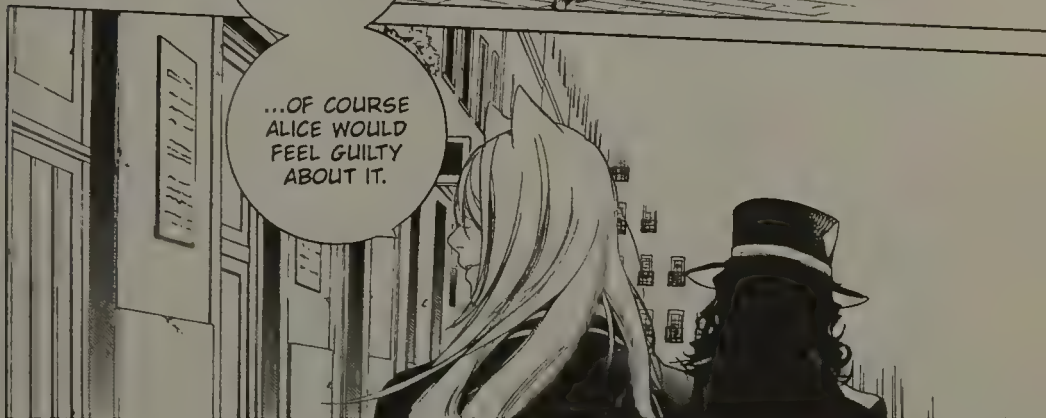


...I'LL TAKE
THAT AS
A NO.



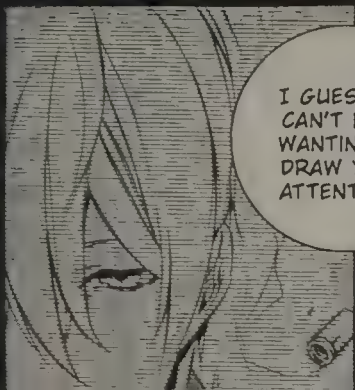
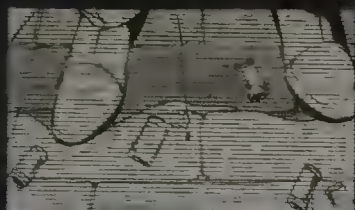
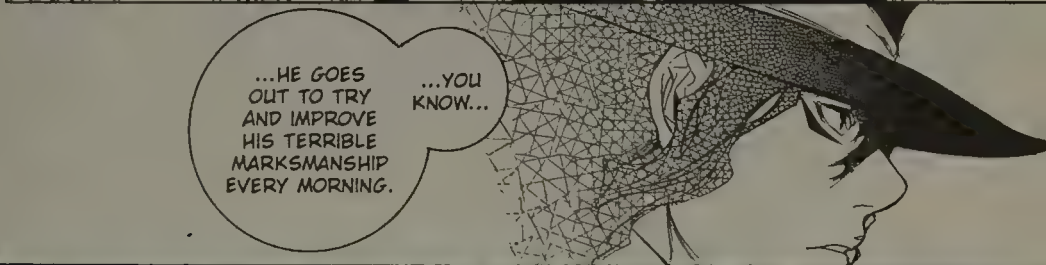
...BUT,
RIGHT...

...OF COURSE
ALICE WOULD
FEEL GUILTY
ABOUT IT.

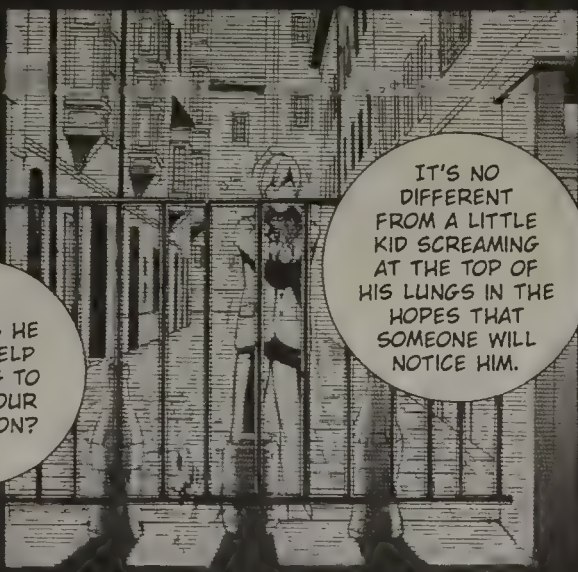


...HE GOES
OUT TO TRY
AND IMPROVE
HIS TERRIBLE
MARKSMANSHIP
EVERY MORNING.

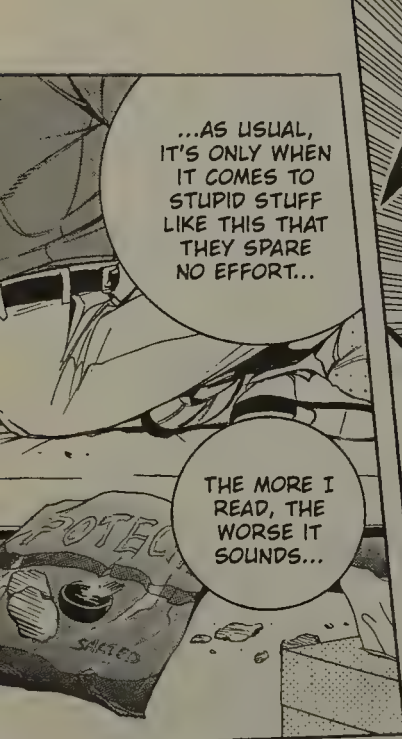
...YOU
KNOW...



I GUESS HE
CAN'T HELP
WANTING TO
DRAW YOUR
ATTENTION?



IT'S NO
DIFFERENT
FROM A LITTLE
KID SCREAMING
AT THE TOP OF
HIS LUNGS IN THE
HOPES THAT
SOMEONE WILL
NOTICE HIM.



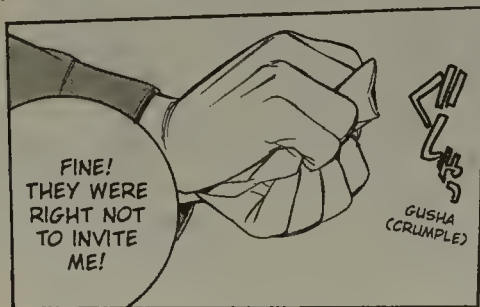
...AS USUAL,
IT'S ONLY WHEN
IT COMES TO
STUPID STUFF
LIKE THIS THAT
THEY SPARE
NO EFFORT...

THE MORE I
READ, THE
WORSE IT
SOUNDS...



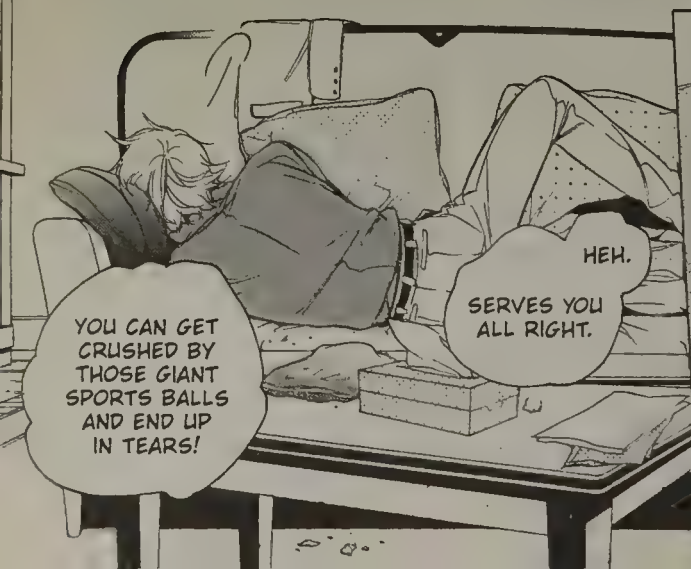
WHAT THE
HELL IS
THIS, AN
ATHLETIC
MEET?

WAIT,
SINGING THE
NATIONAL
ANTHEM...
THERE'S A
NATIONAL
ANTHEM!?



FINE!
THEY WERE
RIGHT NOT
TO INVITE
ME!

GASHA
(CRUMPLE)



HEH.

SERVES YOU
ALL RIGHT.

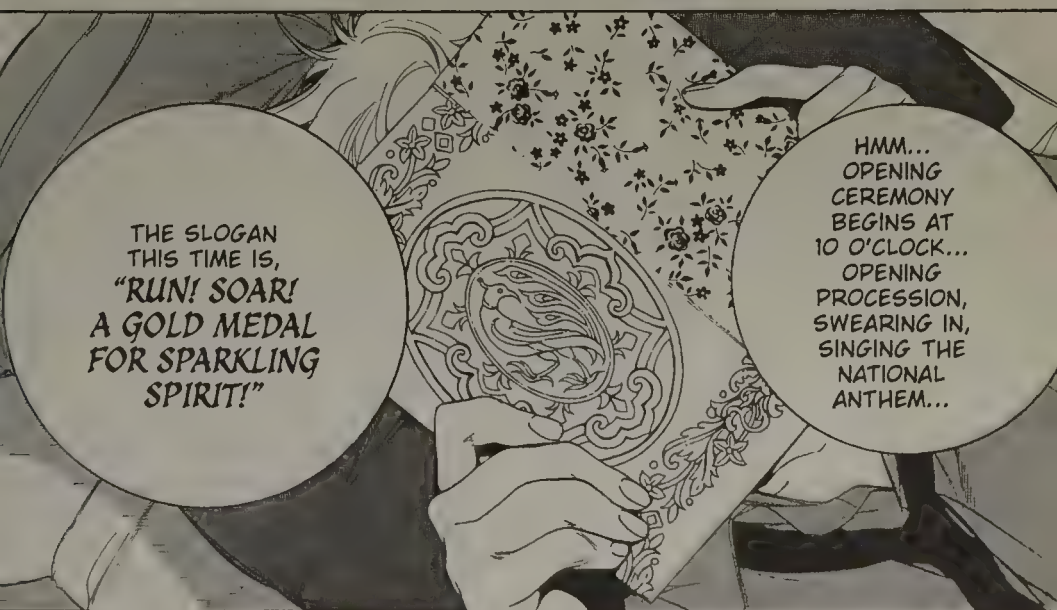
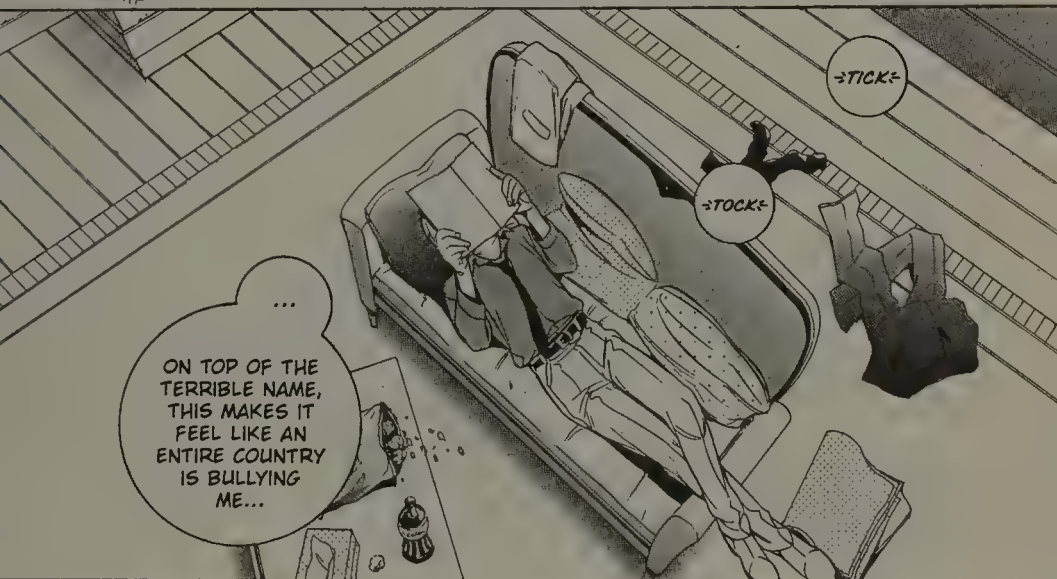


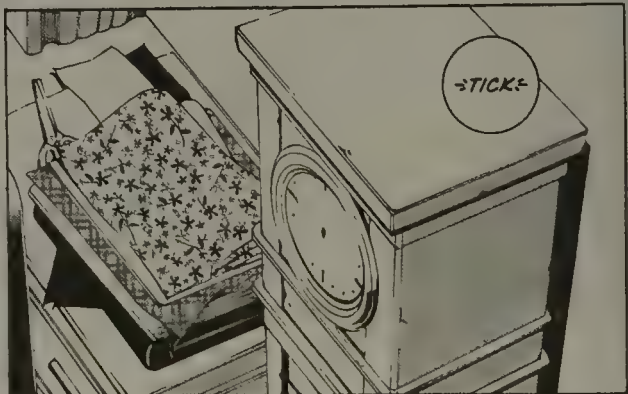
I'M GLAD
THEY DIDN'T!
FOR THAT
MATTER, I'M
ALREADY THE
GOLD
MEDAL...

...AREN'T
I?

YOU CAN GET
CRUSHED BY
THOSE GIANT
SPORTS BALLS
AND END UP
IN TEARS!

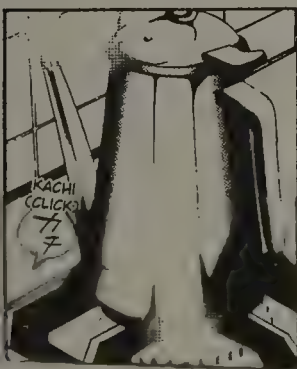
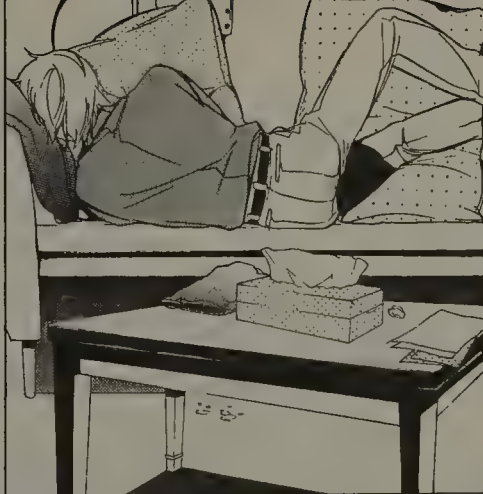
"ON THIS, WONDERLAND'S 89TH ALICE FIXED
HOLIDAY, LET US ALL TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF ALICE'S ABSENCE AND LET LOOSE
AT A FUN-FILLED TEA PARTY!"





...HAAH...

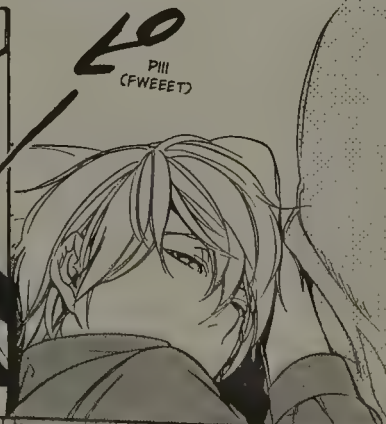
WHAT AM I EVEN TALKING ABOUT...?



KACHI
CLICK
77
7

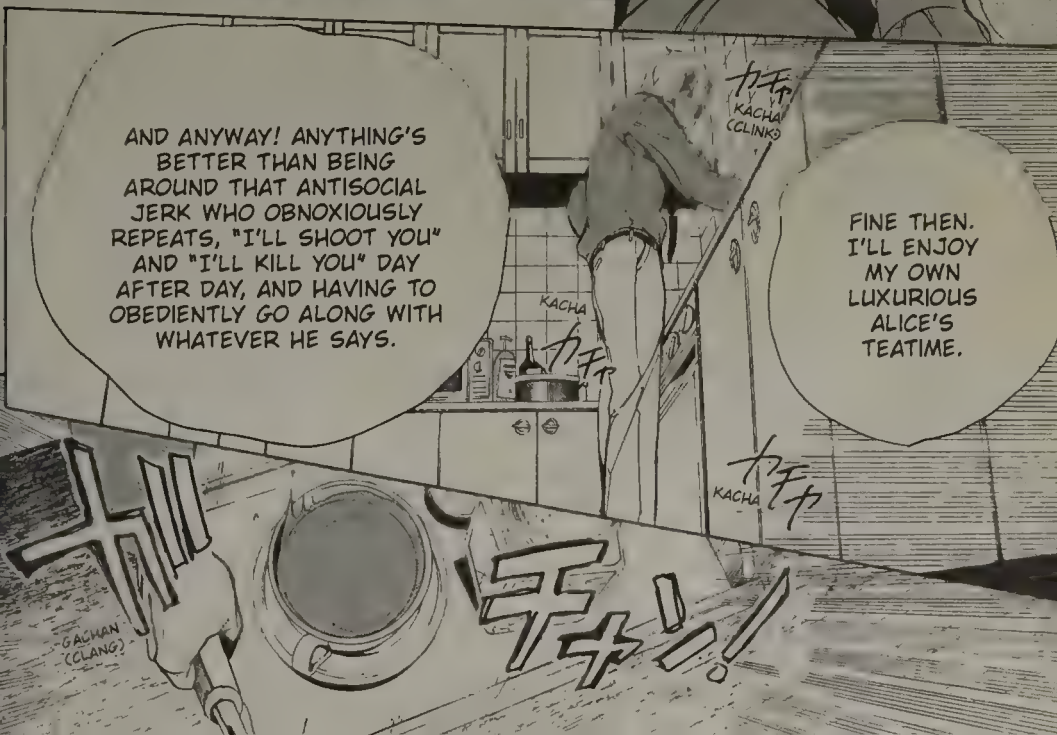


70
Pill
(FWEEET)



AND ANYWAY! ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN BEING AROUND THAT ANTISOCIAL JERK WHO OBNOXIOUSLY REPEATS, "I'LL SHOOT YOU" AND "I'LL KILL YOU" DAY AFTER DAY, AND HAVING TO OBEDIENTLY GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER HE SAYS.

FINE THEN.
I'LL ENJOY
MY OWN
LUXURIOUS
ALICE'S
TEATIME.

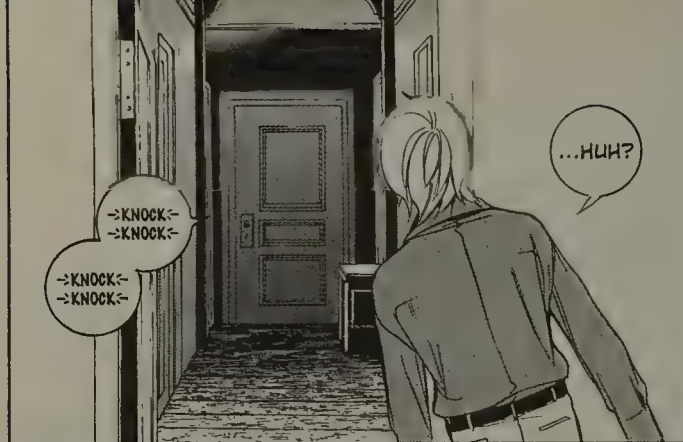


KACHA

カチ
KACHA
(CLINK)

KACHA

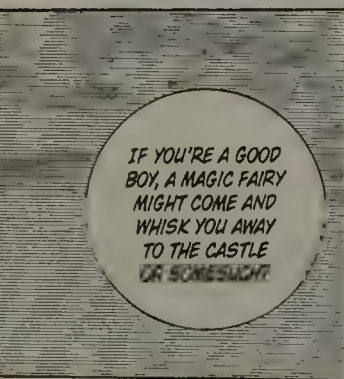
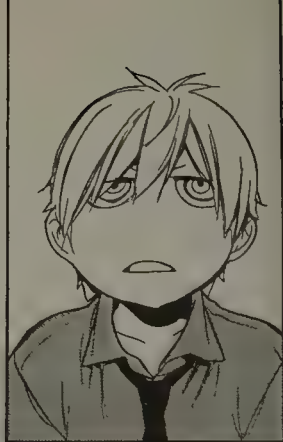
GACHAN
CLANG



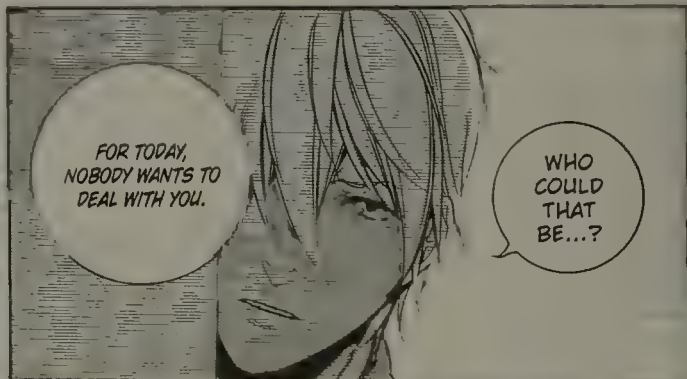
→KNOCK→
→KNOCK→

→KNOCK→
→KNOCK→

...HUH?



IF YOU'RE A GOOD
BOY, A MAGIC FAIRY
MIGHT COME AND
WHISK YOU AWAY
TO THE CASTLE
OR SOMESUCH



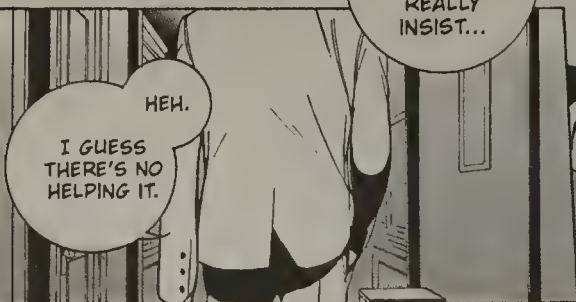
FOR TODAY,
NOBODY WANTS TO
DEAL WITH YOU.

WHO
COULD
THAT
BE...?



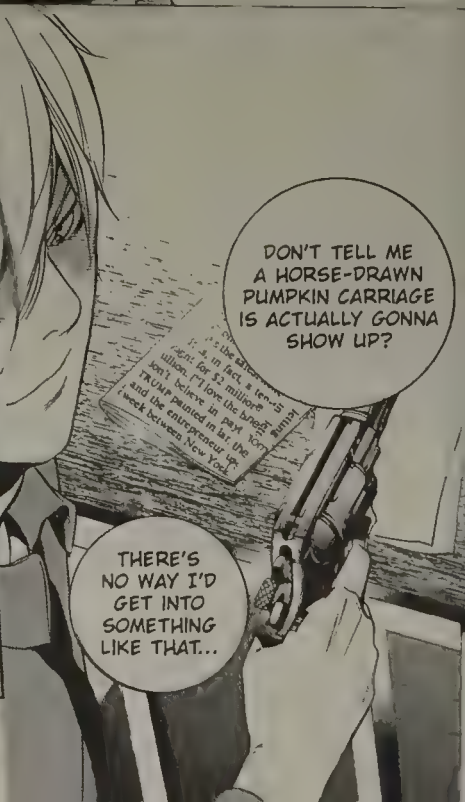
→KNOCK→
→KNOCK→

...BUT,
WELL...
IF THEY
REALLY
INSIST...



HEH.

I GUESS
THERE'S NO
HELPING IT.



DON'T TELL ME
A HORSE-DRAWN
PUMPKIN CARRIAGE
IS ACTUALLY GONNA
SHOW UP?

THERE'S
NO WAY I'D
GET INTO
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT...

A black and white manga-style illustration. A character with short, light-colored hair and a wide-eyed, frustrated expression is shown from the chest up. They are wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt. The character is surrounded by a chaotic scene of falling rectangular panels, some of which are labeled 'BAN'. The background consists of vertical lines, suggesting a wall or a forest. The overall tone is one of intense frustration or anger.

**DAAAGH!
WHAT THE
HELL IS
THIS!?**

**DON'T
IGNORE
MEEE,
DAMMIT
...!**

**SPOIL
ME!**

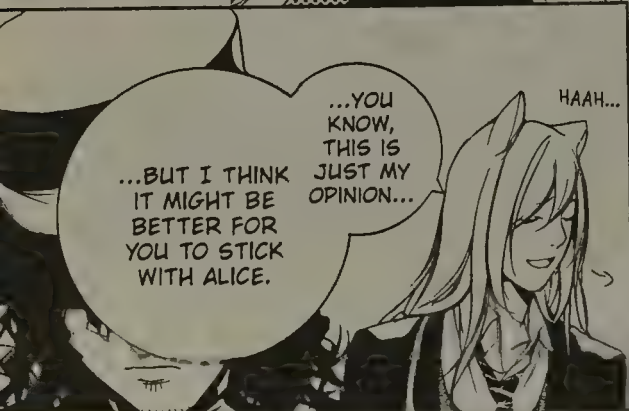
**PAY
ATTEN-
TION TO
ME!**

**I'M
S'POSED
TO BE
ALICE IN
WONDER-
LAND,
RIGHT!?**

**-DING-
POONG-)-**



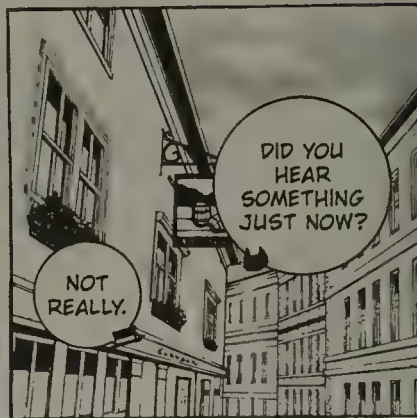
...HMM?



...BUT I THINK
IT MIGHT BE
BETTER FOR
YOU TO STICK
WITH ALICE.

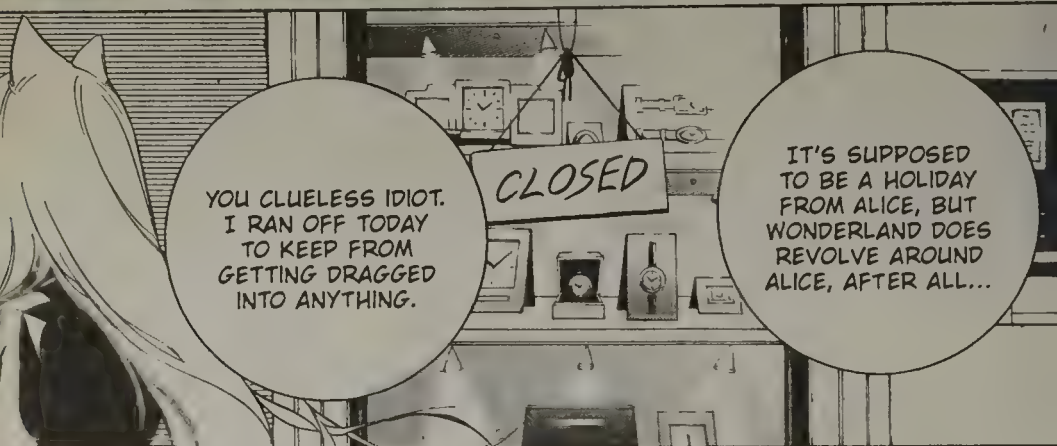
...YOU
KNOW,
THIS IS
JUST MY
OPINION...

HAH...



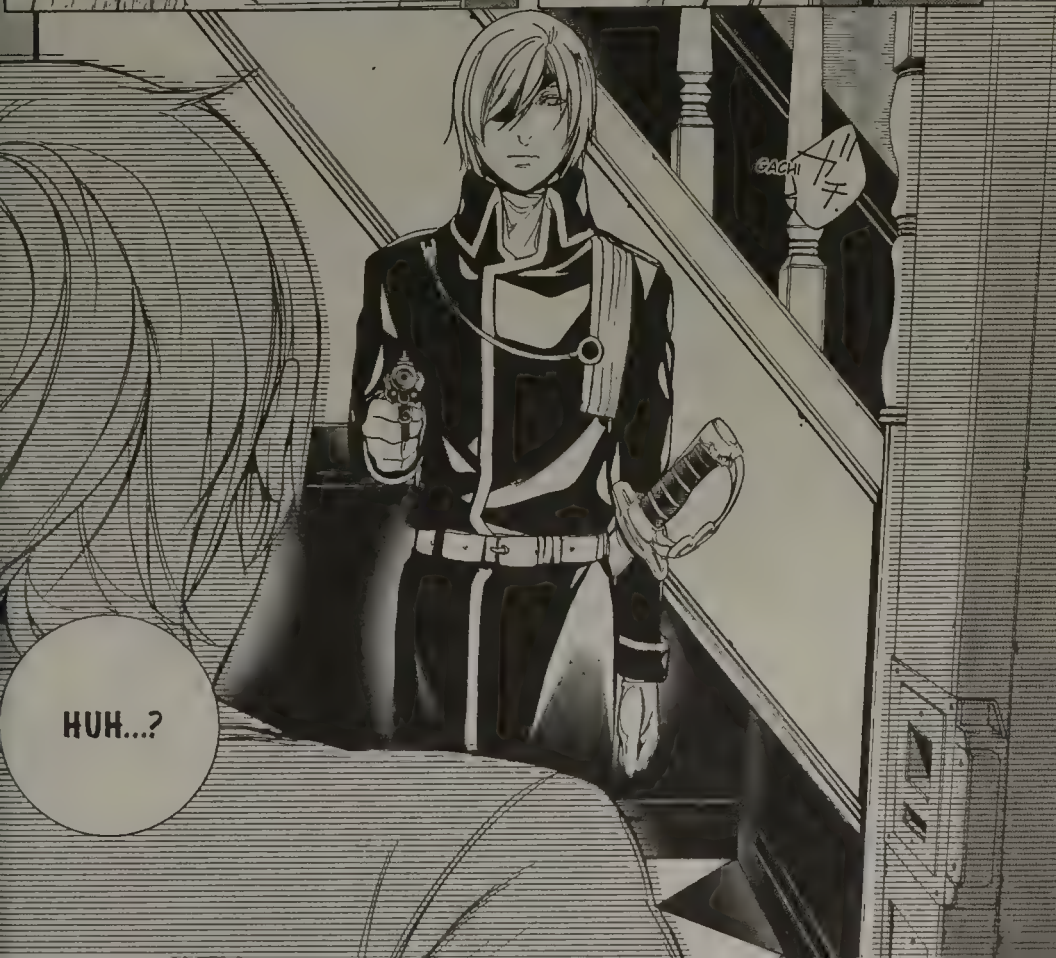
DID YOU
HEAR
SOMETHING
JUST NOW?

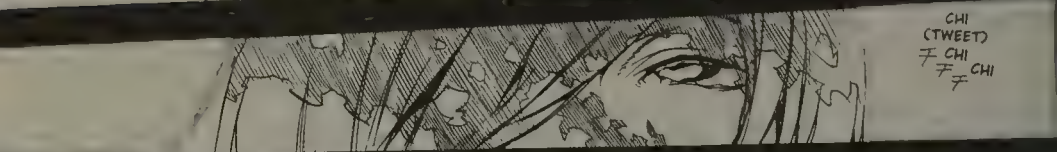
NOT
REALLY.



YOU CLUELESS IDIOT.
I RAN OFF TODAY
TO KEEP FROM
GETTING DRAGGED
INTO ANYTHING.

IT'S SUPPOSED
TO BE A HOLIDAY
FROM ALICE, BUT
WONDERLAND DOES
REVOLVE AROUND
ALICE, AFTER ALL...

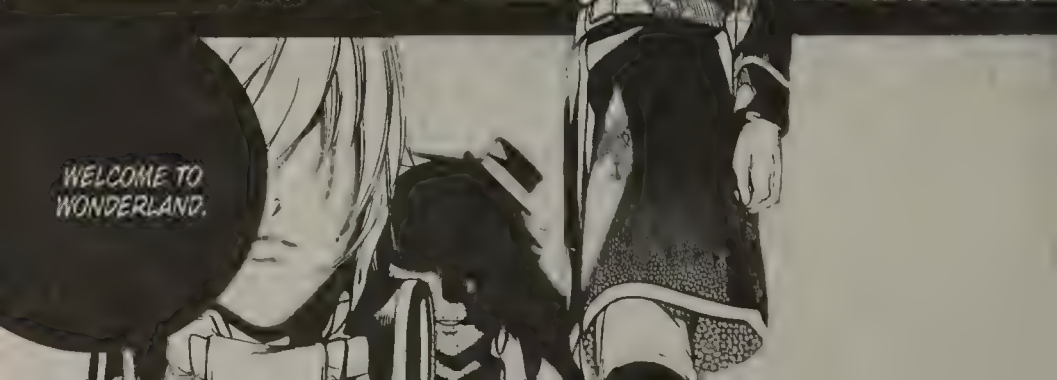




CHI
CTWEET
F CHI
F CHI



— WHERE...?



WELCOME TO
WONDERLAND.

WHAT'LL YOU
DO IF THE
UNTHINKABLE
HAPPENS?

SO
IRRESPONSIBLE.
EVEN THOUGH
IT'S YOU,
MISTER HATTER,
WHO'D BE
INCONVENIENCED
IF HE WENT
MISSING.

I'M NOT
OBLIGATED
TO RETURN
AND RESCUE
HIM.

I DIDN'T
HEAR A
"GUNSHOT."



EXACTLY.

BUT DON'T WORRY.
WHEN IT'S TIME
FOR THE FUNERAL,
I'LL TIE YOUR
NECKTIE FOR YOU
IN ALICE'S PLACE.

zll, zu
(DRAG)

...THINKING
UP A EULOGY
CERTAINLY
IS A PAIN.

WHEN THE TIME
COMES, YOU'LL
BE HEADED TO
THE CREMATORY
WITH HIM.

—DON'T
WORRY.

GACH!
(CLICK)

...AND
HOW DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THAT?

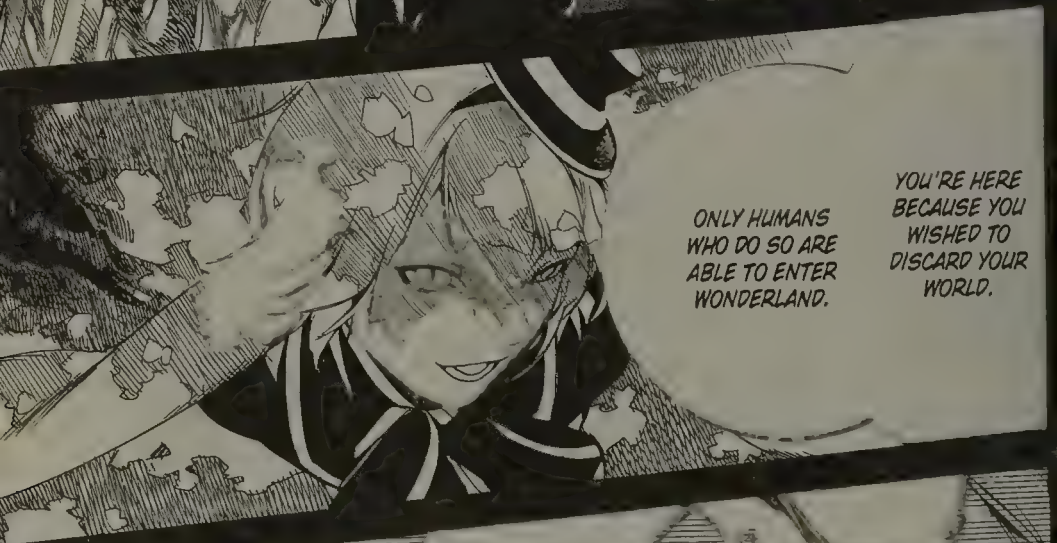
HM?

'COS I'M A FAR
MORE TALENTED
STALKER THAN
YOU, MISTER
HATTER.



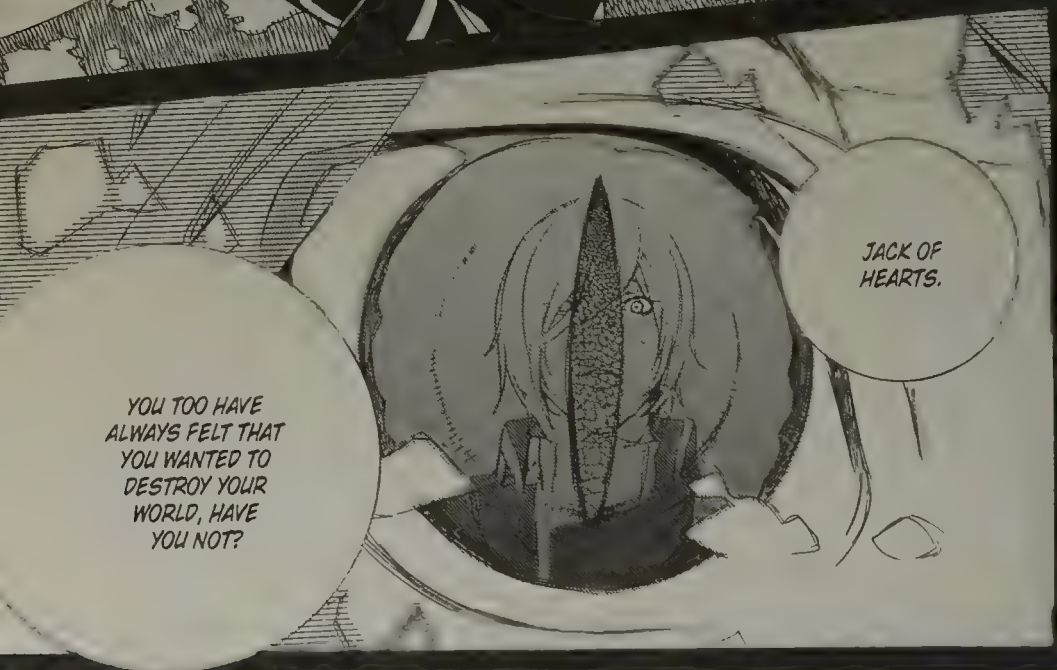
YOU
WHAT?

I THREW AWAY
YOUR OLD NAME
FOR YOU.



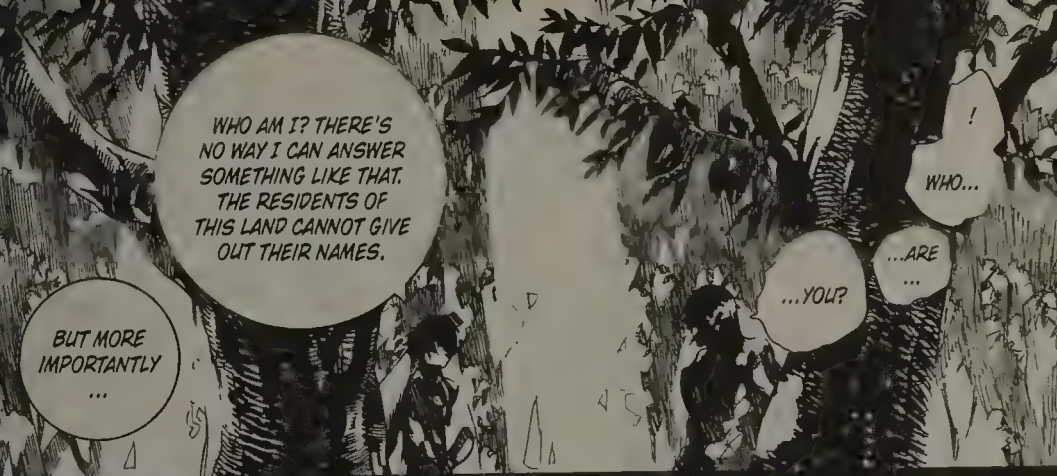
ONLY HUMANS
WHO DO SO ARE
ABLE TO ENTER
WONDERLAND.

YOU'RE HERE
BECAUSE YOU
WISHED TO
DISCARD YOUR
WORLD.



YOU TOO HAVE
ALWAYS FELT THAT
YOU WANTED TO
DESTROY YOUR
WORLD, HAVE
YOU NOT?

JACK OF
HEARTS.



WHO AM I? THERE'S
NO WAY I CAN ANSWER
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THE RESIDENTS OF
THIS LAND CANNOT GIVE
OUT THEIR NAMES.

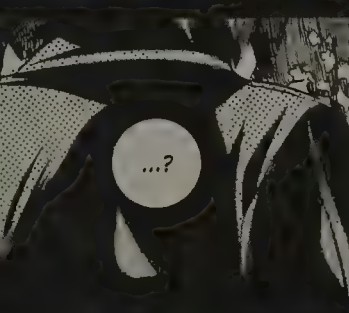
BUT MORE
IMPORTANTLY

...

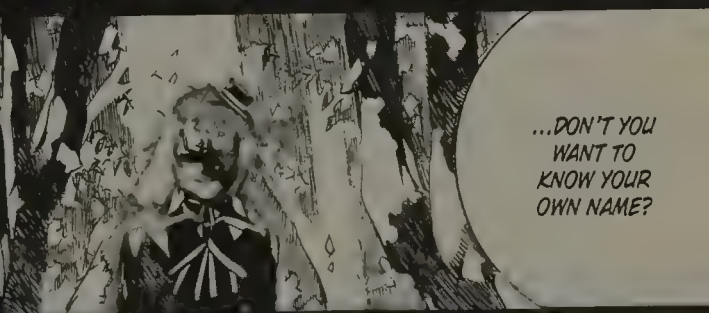
! WHO...

...ARE

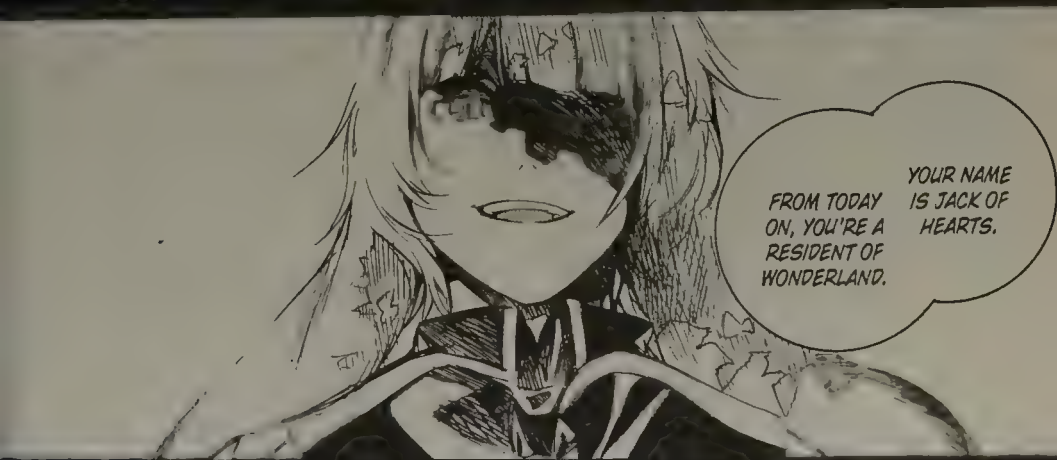
...YOU?



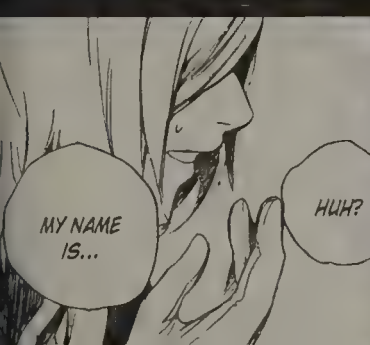
...?



...DON'T YOU
WANT TO
KNOW YOUR
OWN NAME?

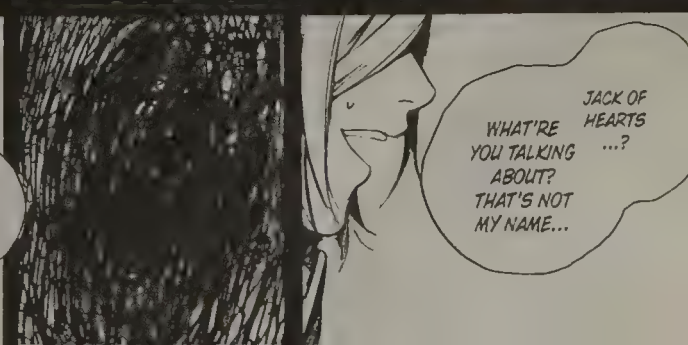


YOUR NAME
IS JACK OF
HEARTS.
FROM TODAY
ON, YOU'RE A
RESIDENT OF
WONDERLAND.

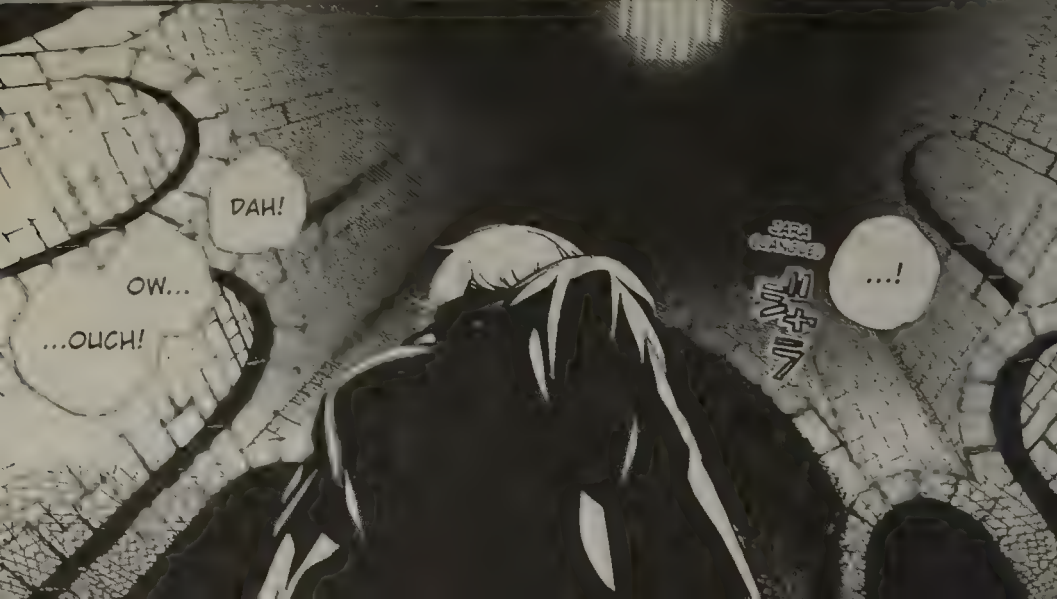
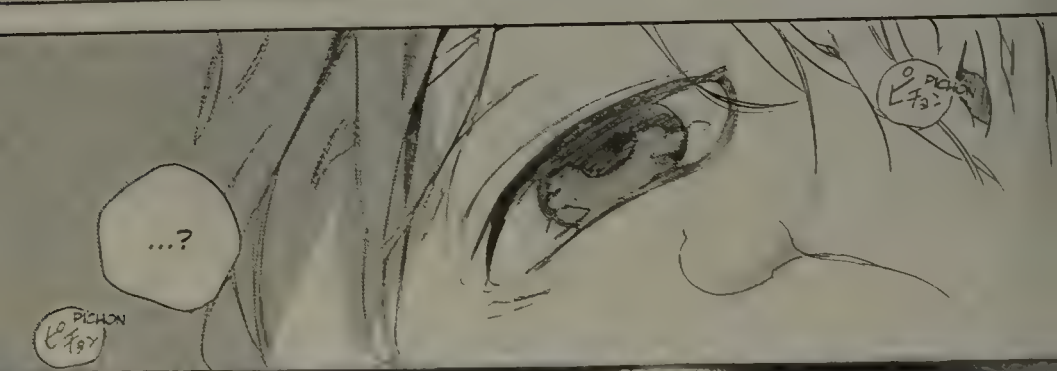
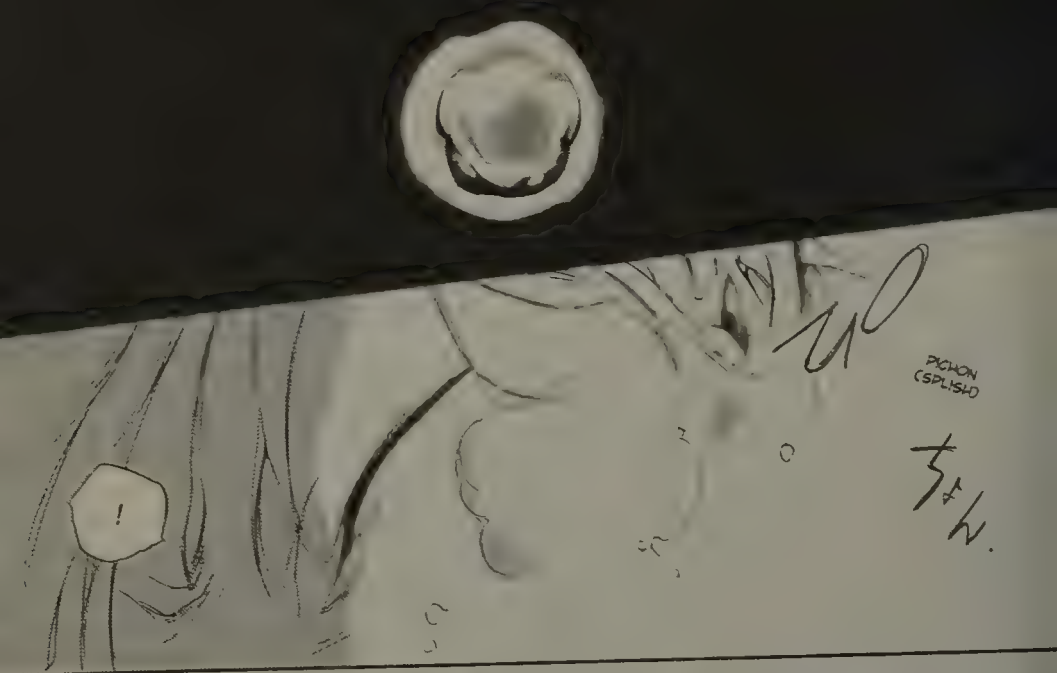


MY NAME
IS...

HUH?



JACK OF
HEARTS
...?
WHAT'RE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?
THAT'S NOT
MY NAME...





Chapter 39 The Knave of Hearts.



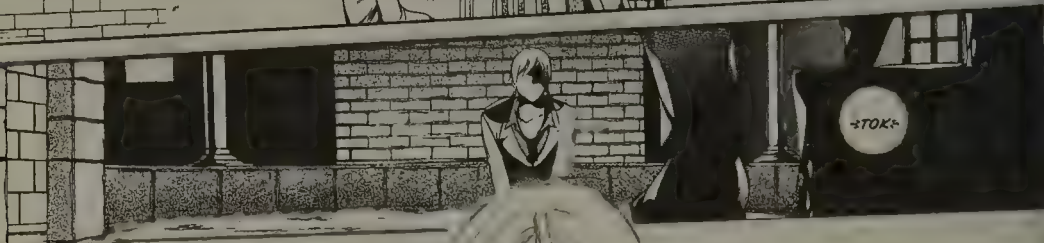
THAT
DAMNED
SWEET-
TOOTHED
!!!
BUT I'M
NEVER
GONNA
TRUST
HIM AGAIN!



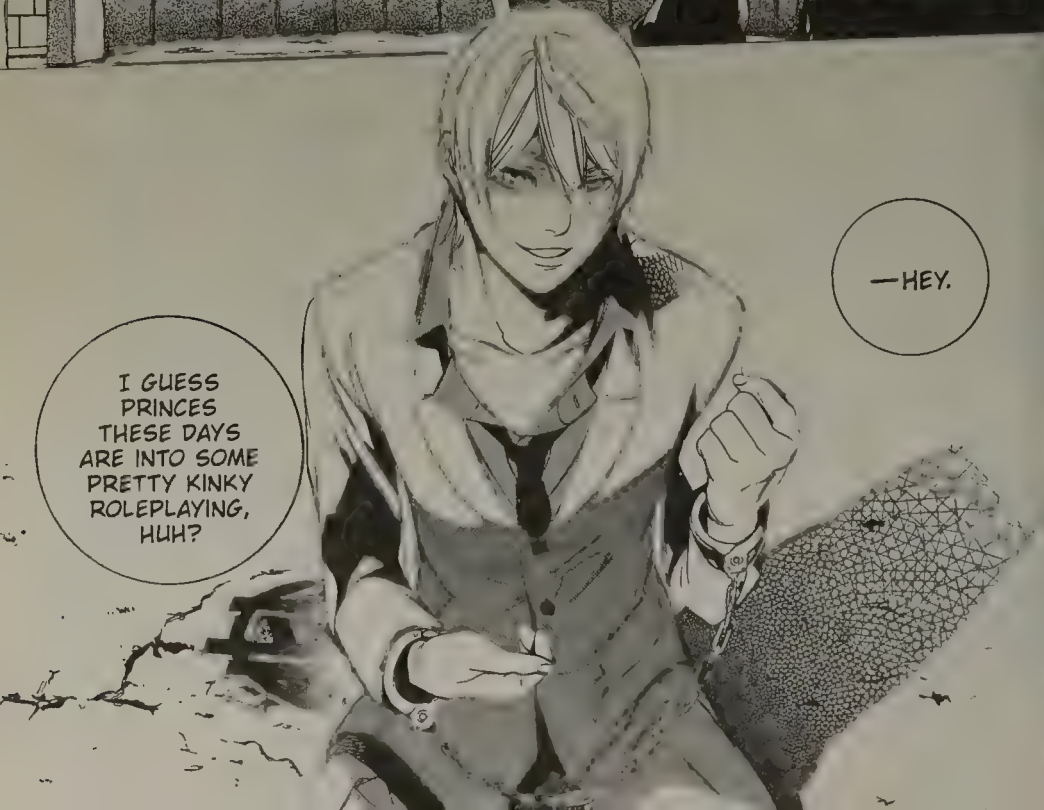
!

→TOK←

→TOK←

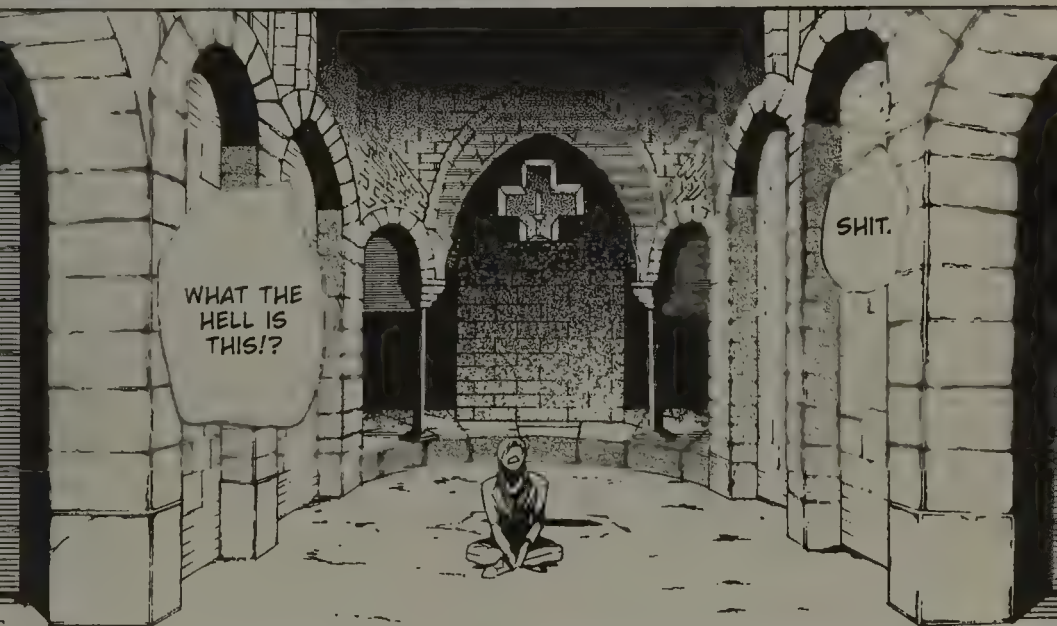


→TOK←



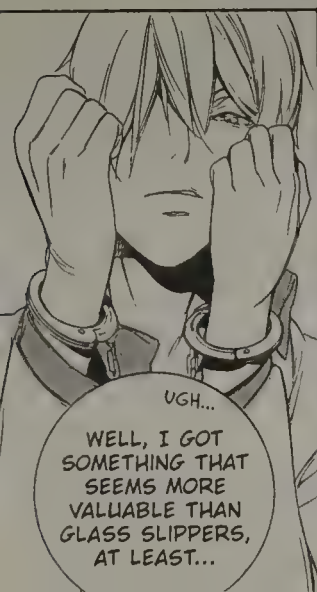
—HEY.

I GUESS
PRINCES
THESE DAYS
ARE INTO SOME
PRETTY KINKY
ROLEPLAYING,
HUH?



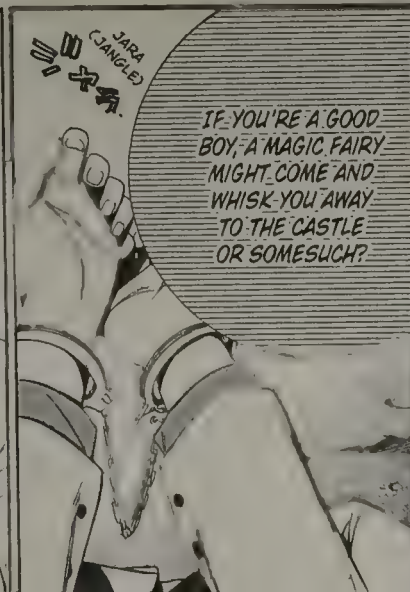
WHAT THE
HELL IS
THIS!?

SHIT.



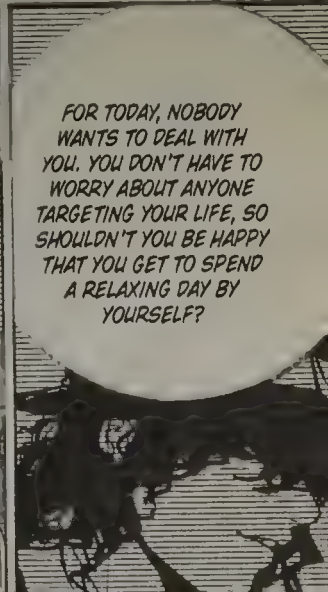
UGH...

WELL, I GOT
SOMETHING THAT
SEEMS MORE
VALUABLE THAN
GLASS SLIPPERS,
AT LEAST...

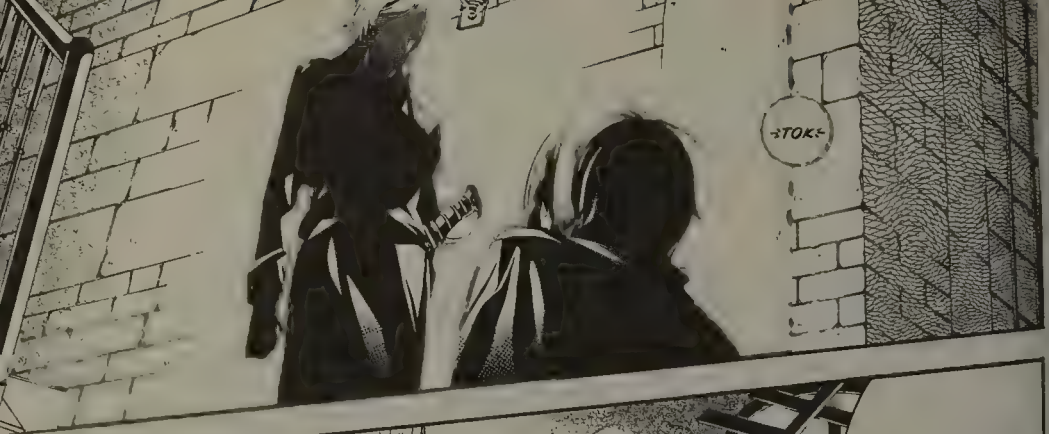


JARA
(JANGLED)
ウツヲ.

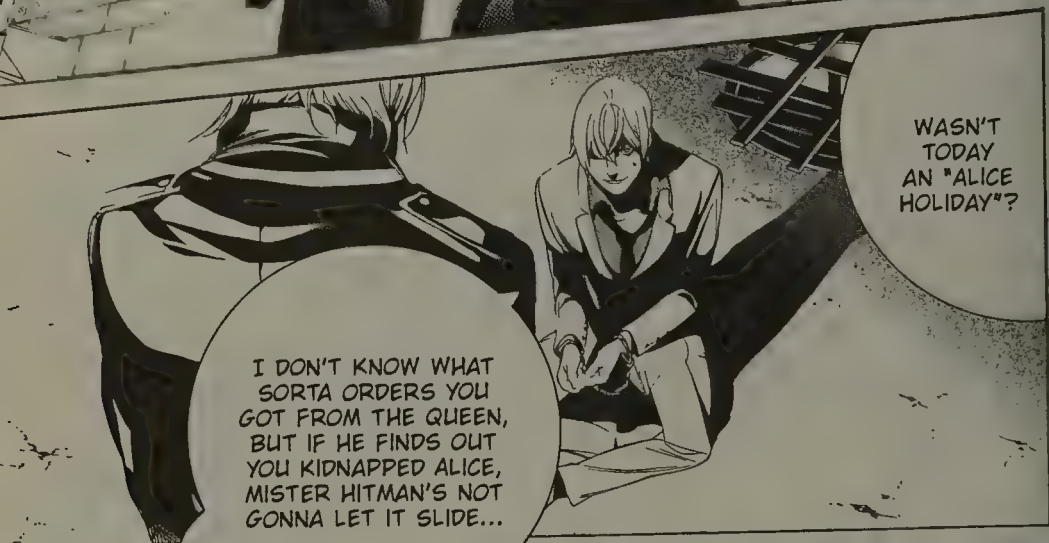
IF YOU'RE A GOOD
BOY, A MAGIC FAIRY
MIGHT COME AND
WHISK YOU AWAY
TO THE CASTLE
OR SOMESUCH?



FOR TODAY, NOBODY
WANTS TO DEAL WITH
YOU. YOU DON'T HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT ANYONE
TARGETING YOUR LIFE, SO
SHOULDN'T YOU BE HAPPY
THAT YOU GET TO SPEND
A RELAXING DAY BY
YOURSELF?



→TOK←



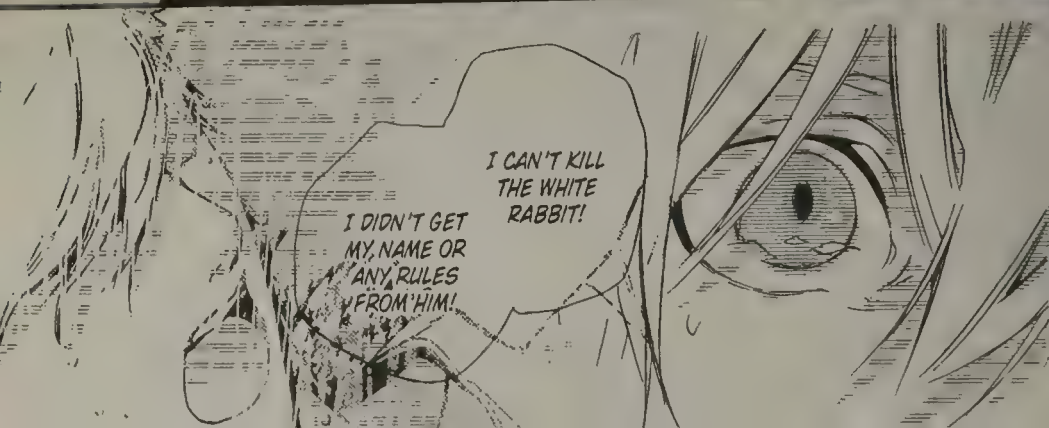
WASN'T
TODAY
AN "ALICE
HOLIDAY"?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT
SORTA ORDERS YOU
GOT FROM THE QUEEN,
BUT IF HE FINDS OUT
YOU KIDNAPPED ALICE,
MISTER HITMAN'S NOT
GONNA LET IT SLIDE...

—WAIT!

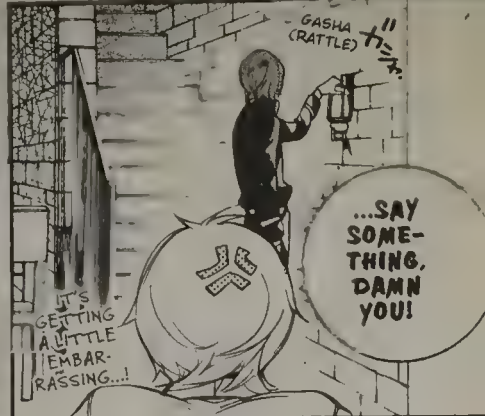
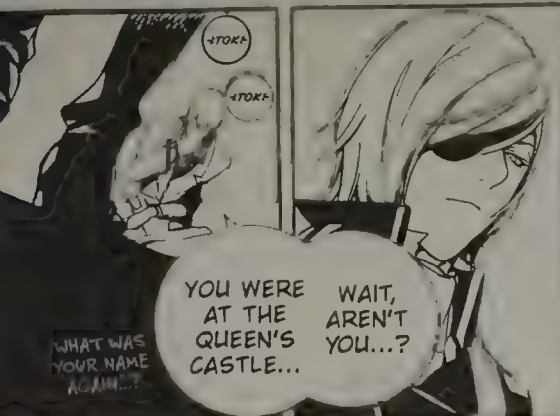
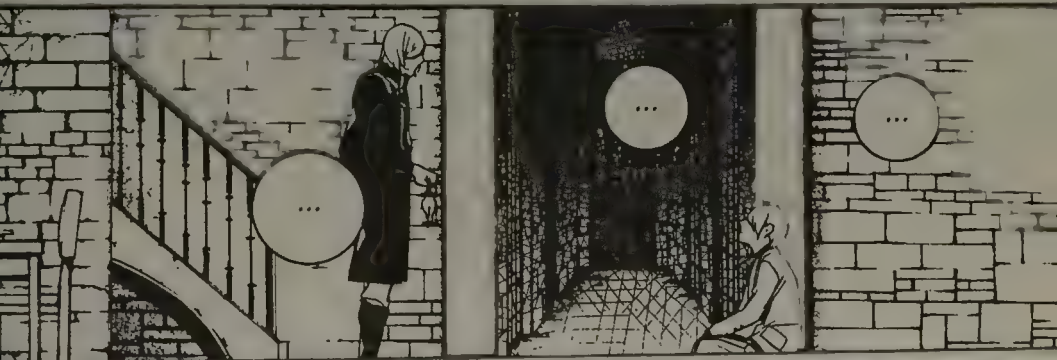
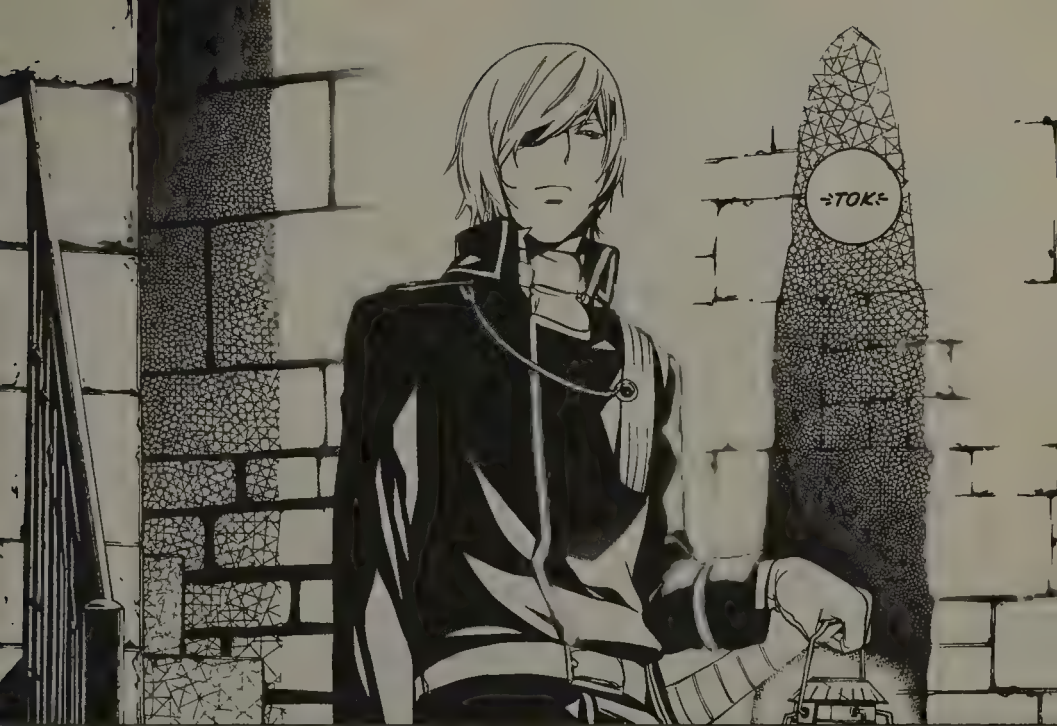


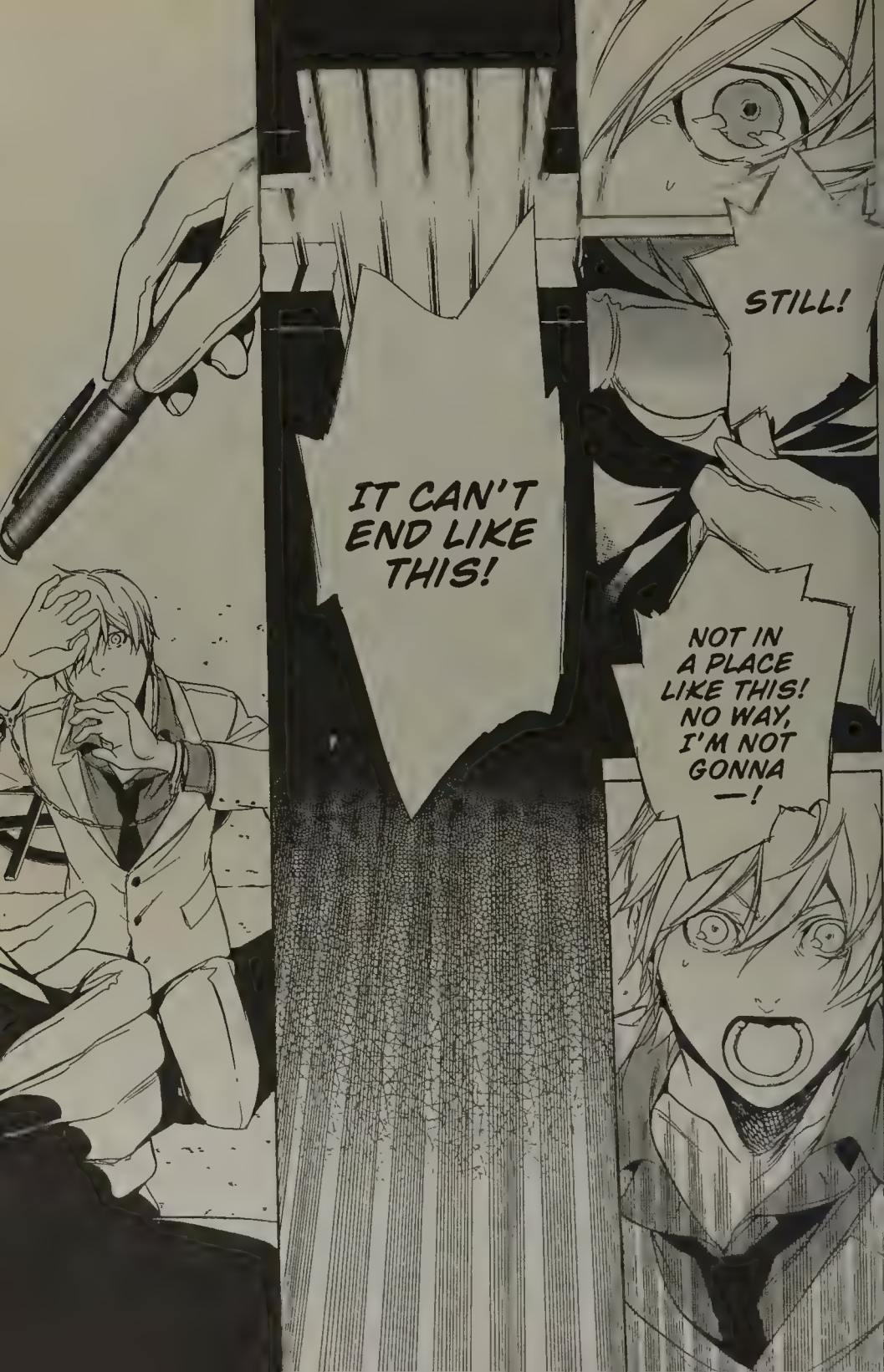
54
(SLIDE)



I CAN'T KILL
THE WHITE
RABBIT!

I DIDN'T GET
MY NAME OR
ANY RULES
FROM HIM!





**IT CAN'T
END LIKE
THIS!**

STILL!

**NOT IN
A PLACE
LIKE THIS!
NO WAY,
I'M NOT
GONNA
—!**



H-HOLD ON A
MINUTE...!

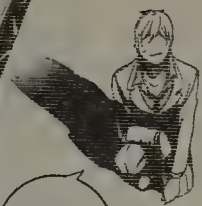


TH-THAT'S
RIGHT, THE DEAL!
I MADE A DEAL
WITH THE QUEEN!
WHAT HAPPENED
TO THAT!?

OR WHAT'RE YOU
SAYING!? THAT
YOUR SUPERIOR IS
TOTALLY FINE WITH
INVALIDATING THE
CONTRACTS HE'S
MADE WITH PEOPLE!?
DOES HE THINK
HE'S ABOVE THE
LAW!? WELL, NO, I
MEAN, HE IS ABOVE
THE LAW, BUT...!

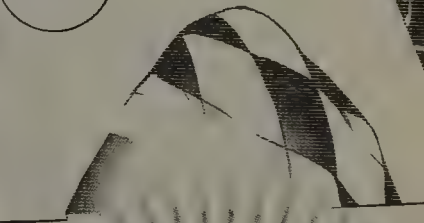
AND I DON'T
REALLY GIVE
OFF AN ALICE-
LIKE VIBE,
EVEN THOUGH
EVERYONE
CONSIDERS ME
TO BE ALICE! BUT
I'M, YOU KNOW...!
I'VE GOT THE
TROUBLES AND
PRIDE AND GOALS
AND STUFF OF
AN ALICE!

I-IT'S
TRUE
THAT
I'M NOT
ALICE...!



...YES.
PROBABLY.

— YOU ALSO
RECEIVED A
NAME FROM THE
WHITE RABBIT,
DID YOU NOT?



D-
DON'T TELL
ME...

...THE
QUEEN
FOUND
OUT...

...OR
SOMETHING
...?

OH NO! REALLY?
ARE YOU UNWELL?

'COS OF
YOU.

...OKAY.

I MEAN, I'M
NOT DOING
GREAT
RIGHT NOW,
THOUGH...

I CAN TELL YOU
WHY, BUT IT'S A
LONG STORY...

NAH,
I'M GOOD,
THANKS.

OH YEAH...
THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU CAN'T TALK.
CAN YOU?

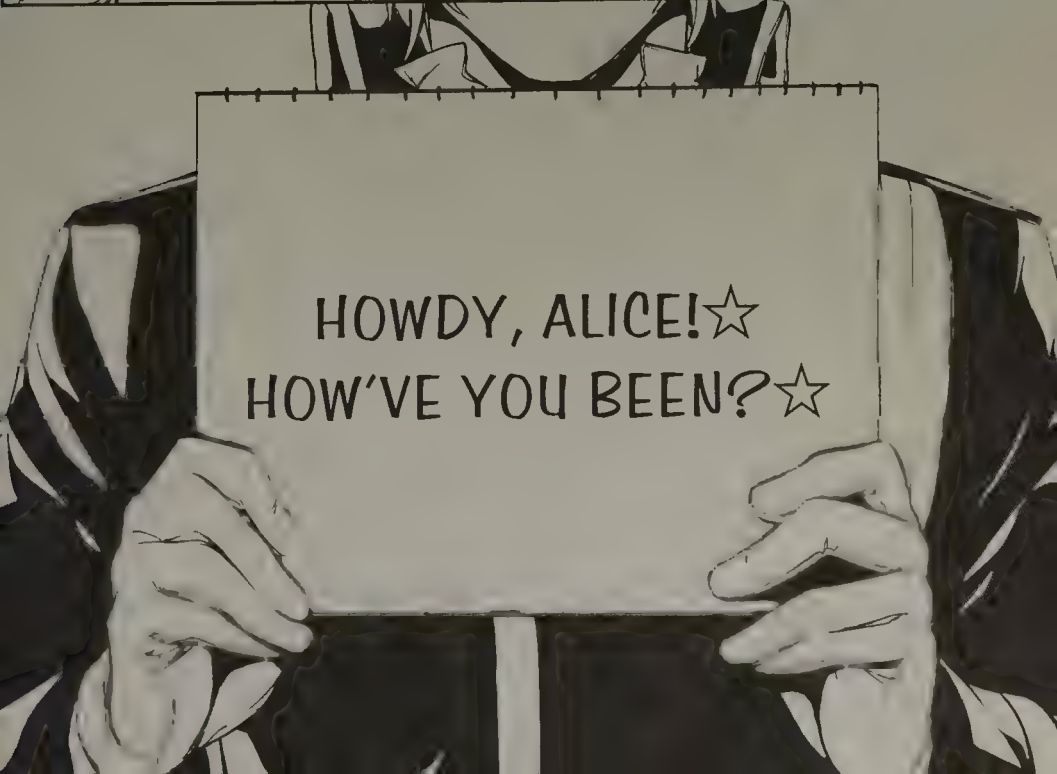
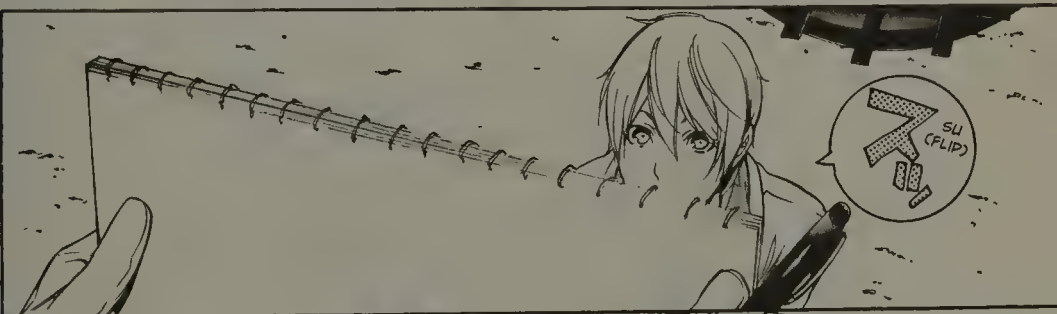
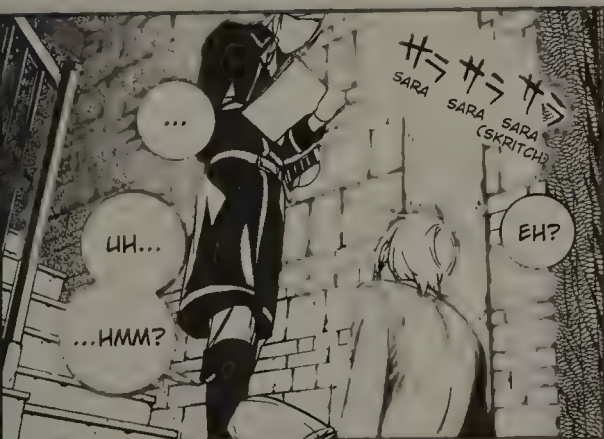
I'VE HAD IT
WITH HIM.

SARA
SARA
SARA

WHAT THE
HELL IS
THE QUEEN
THINKING?
I DON'T GET
HIM AT ALL.

=SOB=

MORE
IMPORTANTLY,
WHY DID YOU
DO THIS TO ME?
EXPLAIN THAT
INSTEAD.



ACTUALLY, IT'S BECAUSE THAT IDIOT ALICE
COULDN'T QUICKLY KILL OFF THE WHITE RABBIT
THAT I'VE BEEN STUCK IN THIS RESTRICTIVE
ROLE FOR ALL THESE YEARS. ALICE IS A SERIOUS
PAIN IN THE ASS. ALICE REALLY IS USELESS.

*SHE'S THE
TYPE WHO
WOULDN'T BE
ABLE TO STICK
WITH ANYTHING
FOR LONG*...

—HEY,
WHO DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!?

GYAAAAAAAAAH!

BITAAN
(SMACK)

ALICE, I NEED TO
USE YOU TO BREAK
MY CONTRACT WITH
THE QUEEN.

BY
"HIM" ...
...YOU
MEAN THE
QUEEN?

SARA

††

SARA

(SKRITCH)

††

...OH???

HEH, SOUNDS
PRETTY
INTERESTING.
I WASN'T
EXPECTING
THAT.

SU
(FLIP)
7

HMM?

THEY CALL IT
A HOLIDAY OR
WHATEVER, BUT
IN THE END,
IT'S NO GOOD
IF I'M NOT
THERE, HUH?

WONDERLAND'S
NOTHING WITHOUT
ME, AFTER ALL.
I SHOULDN'T BE
TREATED LIKE
AN OUTCAST,
SHOULD I?

WELL,
CAN'T SAY
I'M SUR-
PRISED.

SARA SARA
†† ††



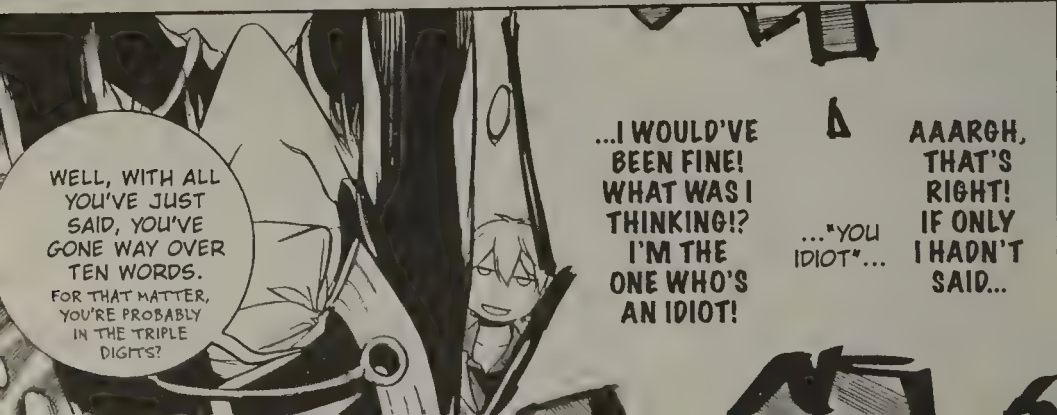
JUST
NOW,
THAT...

...*THAT
HURT! WHAT
THE HELL DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING, YOU
IDIOT!?

—OH!
CRAP!

I SO
POINTLESSLY
WENT OVER IT
WITH TWELVE
WORDS! ARGH,
THIS IS TERRIBLE,
WHAT HAVE
I DONE!?

MY CONTRACT
WITH THE QUEEN
IS TO NOT SPEAK
MORE THAN TEN
WORDS OVER
THE SPAN OF
TEN YEARS!



WELL, WITH ALL
YOU'VE JUST
SAID, YOU'VE
GONE WAY OVER
TEN WORDS.
FOR THAT MATTER,
YOU'RE PROBABLY
IN THE TRIPLE
DIGITS?

...I WOULD'VE
BEEN FINE!
WHAT WAS I
THINKING!?
I'M THE
ONE WHO'S
AN IDIOT!

...*YOU
IDIOT*...

AAARGH,
THAT'S
RIGHT!
IF ONLY
I HADN'T
SAID...

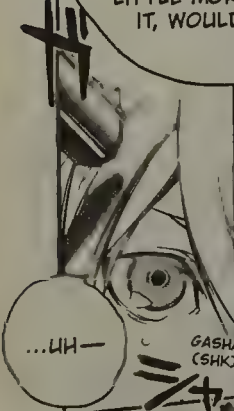


THAT
HURT!
WHAT
THE HELL
DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING,
YOU
IDIOT!?



WHAT IS IT
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING,
WASTING
MY TIME!?
WHAT WAS
WITH THAT
"HOWDY,
ALICE!☆"
CRAP...!?

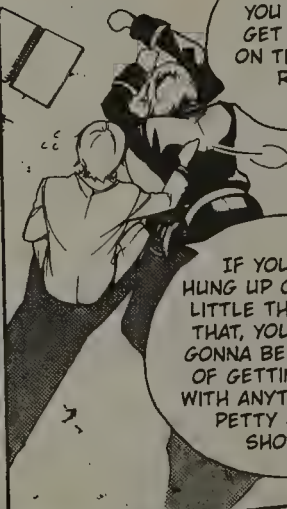
SHUT THE
HELL UP!
YOU'RE
PERFECTLY
CAPABLE OF
TALKING,
AREN'T
YOU!?



YOU'VE GOT ALICE
SAYING HE'LL
GO OUT OF HIS
WAY TO HELP
YOU, SO GET A
LITTLE MORE INTO
IT, WOULDJA?

YEP,
FOR
SURE!

...THAT'S
TRUE, I
SUPPOSE.

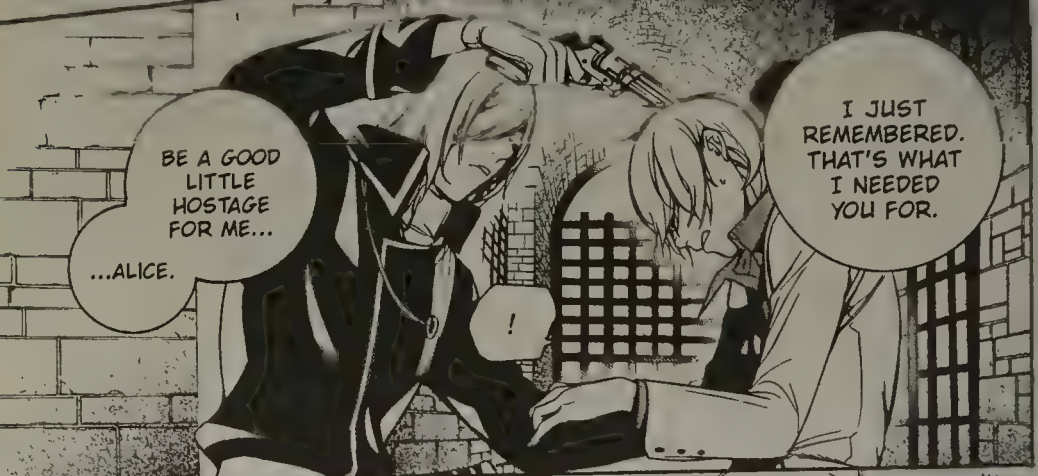


BUT LOOK,
YOU WANT TO
GET REVENGE
ON THE QUEEN,
RIGHT?

IF YOU GET
HUNG UP ON EVERY
LITTLE THING LIKE
THAT, YOU'RE NOT
GONNA BE CAPABLE
OF GETTING BACK
WITH ANYTHING BUT
PETTY CHEAP
SHOTS.

...UH—

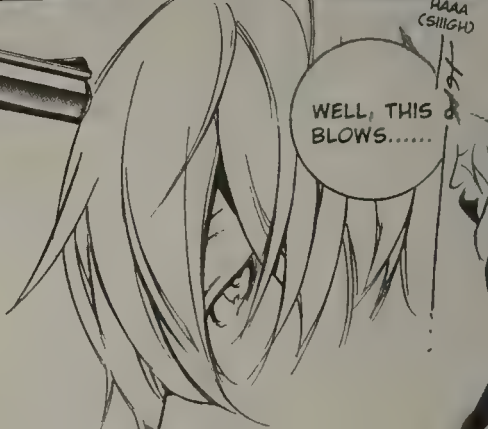
GASHA
(SHKO)



BE A GOOD
LITTLE
HOSTAGE
FOR ME...

...ALICE.

I JUST
REMEMBERED.
THAT'S WHAT
I NEEDED
YOU FOR.

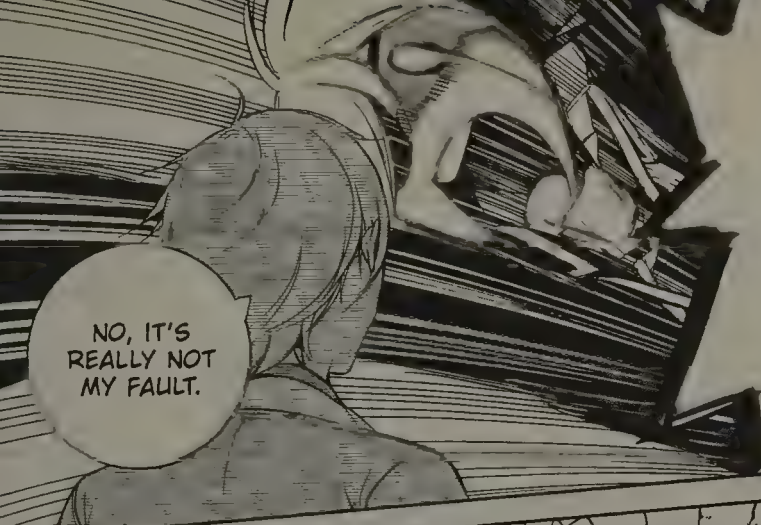


I'M GETTING
PRETTY DAMN
SICK OF THIS
PATTERN
REPEATING
ITSELF.

WHY IS IT THAT
NOT A SINGLE
ONE OF YOU
CAN JUST ASK
ME POLITELY
FOR A FAVOR?

WELL, THIS
BLOWS.....

HAAA
(SIGH)



ALICE!

**THIS IS ALL
YOUR FAULT,
DAMN YOOOU!**

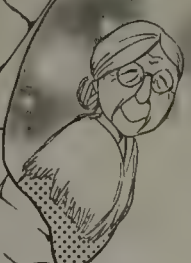
NO, IT'S
REALLY NOT
MY FAULT.

AHHH...

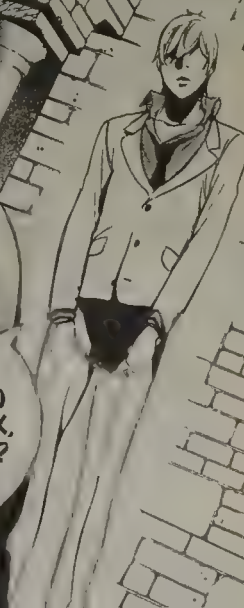
IT'S ALL OVER...
LOOKING BACK ON
ALL MY HARD WORK
OVER THE PAST TEN
YEARS, RESTRAINING
MYSELF FROM SO
MUCH AS A SINGLE
SNEEZE, AND IT'S
ALL GONE IN THE
BLINK OF AN EYE.



SLEEPING WITH MY
MOUTH SEALED
WITH DUCT TAPE
SO I WOULDN'T
ACCIDENTALLY
SAY SOMETHING
IN MY SLEEP...



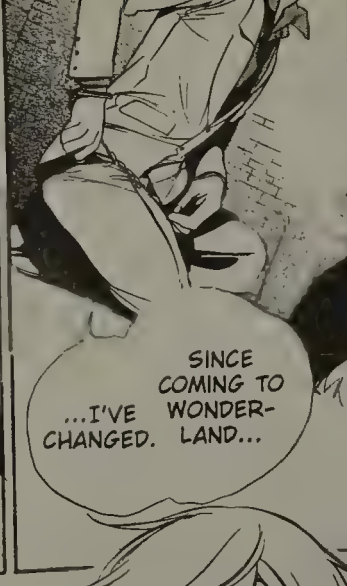
...CONSTANTLY
THINKING ABOUT THE
TIME WHEN THE OLD LADY I
ALWAYS GOT ALONG WITH
DIED SO A FUNNY JOKE
WOULDN'T INADVERTENTLY
COME TO MIND—
ALL THAT HARD WORK,
GONE IN THE BLINK
OF AN EYE...



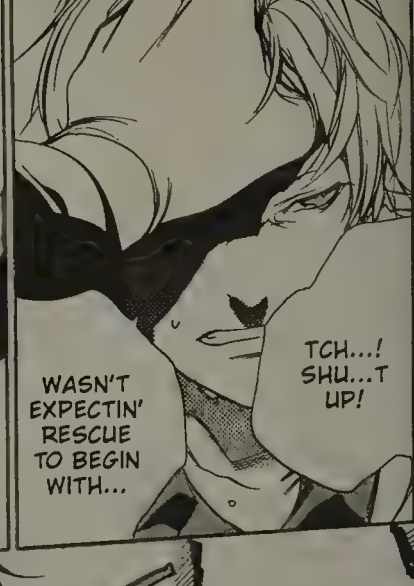
YOU SURE DO
LOVE TO TALK,
DON'T YOU...?



AT THE
VERY
LEAST...



SINCE
COMING TO
...I'VE WONDER-
CHANGED. LAND...



WASN'T
EXPECTIN'
RESCUE
TO BEGIN
WITH...

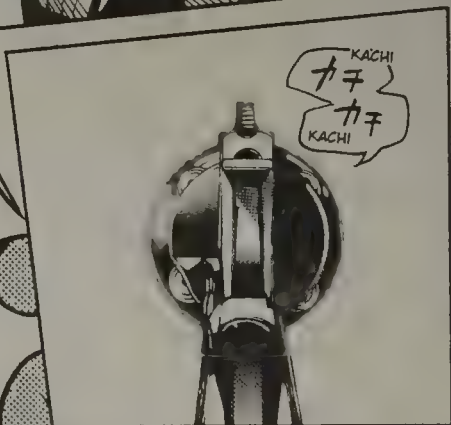
TCH...!
SHU...T
UP!



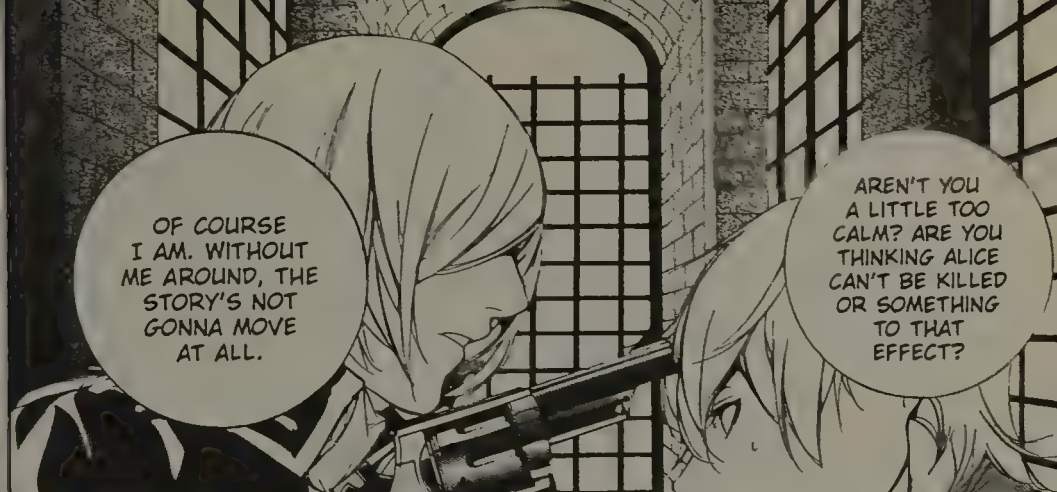
...I CAN
PROTECT
MYSELF
NOW!



...AWW.
SHIT. OUTTA
BULLETS!



KACHI
カチ
カチ
KACHI



OF COURSE
I AM. WITHOUT
ME AROUND, THE
STORY'S NOT
GONNA MOVE
AT ALL.

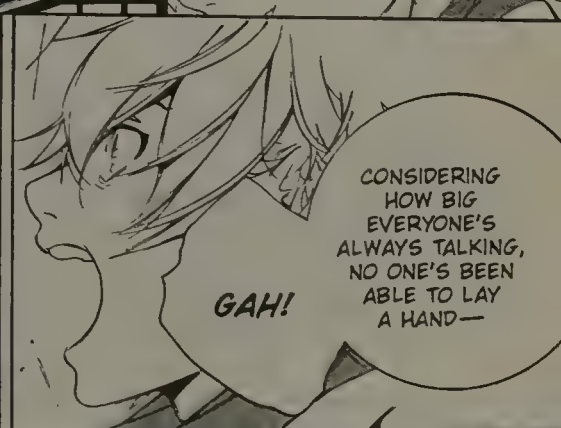
AREN'T YOU
A LITTLE TOO
CALM? ARE YOU
THINKING ALICE
CAN'T BE KILLED
OR SOMETHING
TO THAT
EFFECT?



AHH...!

HMPH...NO
ONE'S BEEN
ABLE TO
LAY A HAND
ON YOU?

HAH!



GAH!

CONSIDERING
HOW BIG
EVERYONE'S
ALWAYS TALKING,
NO ONE'S BEEN
ABLE TO LAY
A HAND—



GU
(GRAB)

YOU REALIZE
I'M A TRAITOR,
RIGHT? DON'T
LUMP ME IN
WITH THOSE
RULE-ABIDING
IDIOTS.

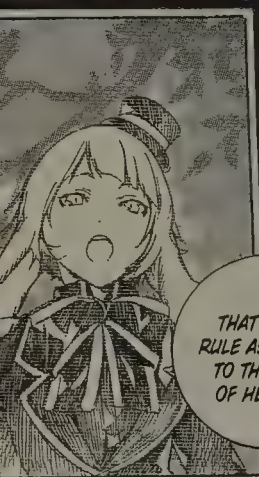
NO ONE WANTS TO
GET INVOLVED WITH
ALICE TODAY, RIGHT?
WHICH MEANS
NOBODY'S COMING
TO SAVE YOU. NOW
ARE YOU STARTING
TO UNDERSTAND THE
BIND YOU'RE IN?

...TODAY'S
THE ALICE
HOLIDAY.

Chapter 40

NIKO

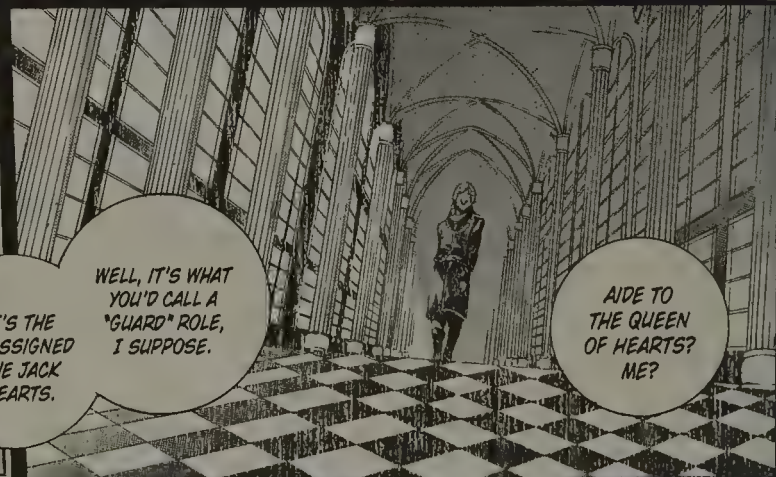
NIKO
(GRIND)



THAT'S THE
RULE ASSIGNED
TO THE JACK
OF HEARTS.

WELL, IT'S WHAT
YOU'D CALL A
"GUARD" ROLE,
I SUPPOSE.

AIDE TO
THE QUEEN
OF HEARTS?
ME?



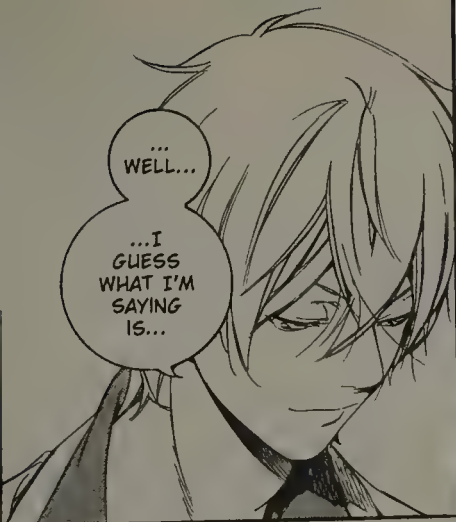
MEANING,
I'LL BE BY HER
MAJESTY'S SIDE
DAY AND NIGHT,
PROTECTING HER
MAJESTY...

THE QUEEN
OF HEARTS'
AIDE...THE
QUEEN OF
HEARTS'
GUARD...

...WHERE
HER MAJESTY
BATHES, WHERE
HER MAJESTY
SLEEPS...

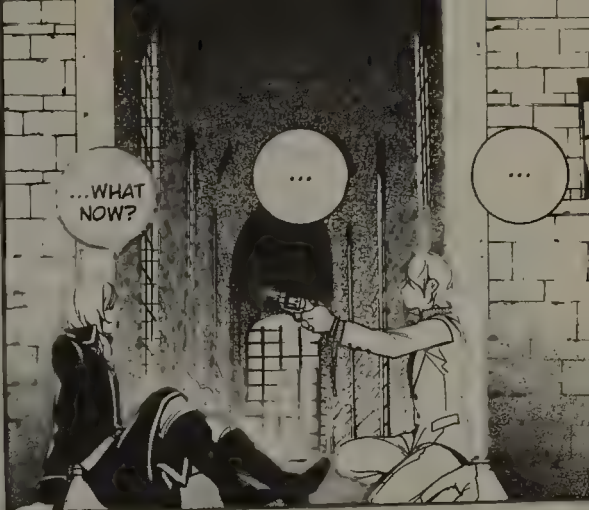
KA
(CLACK)





...
WELL...

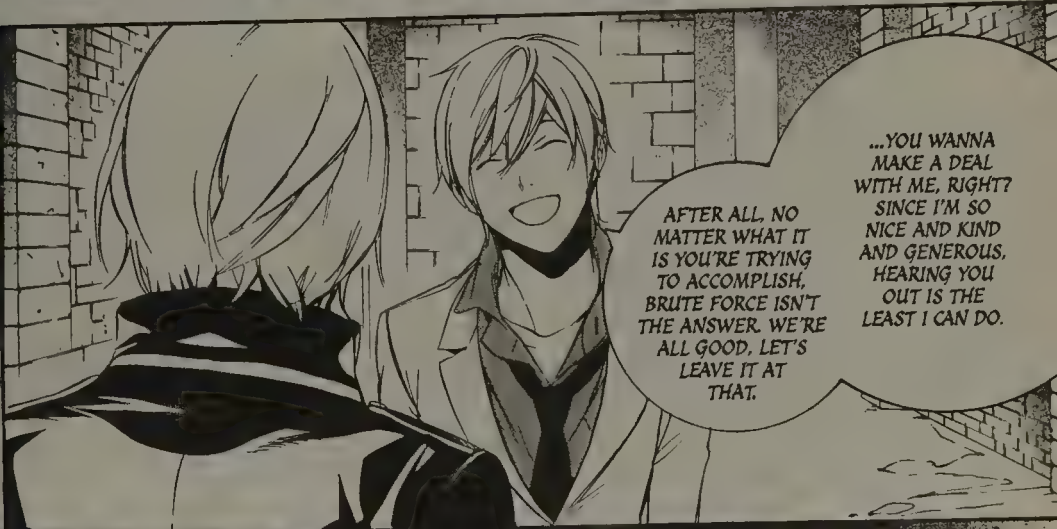
...I
GUESS
WHAT I'M
SAYING
IS...



...WHAT
NOW?

...

...

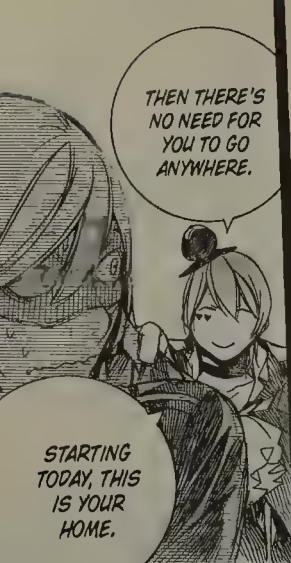


AFTER ALL, NO
MATTER WHAT IT
IS YOU'RE TRYING
TO ACCOMPLISH,
BRUTE FORCE ISN'T
THE ANSWER. WE'RE
ALL GOOD, LET'S
LEAVE IT AT
THAT.

...YOU WANNA
MAKE A DEAL
WITH ME, RIGHT?
SINCE I'M SO
NICE AND KIND
AND GENEROUS,
HEARING YOU
OUT IS THE
LEAST I CAN DO.

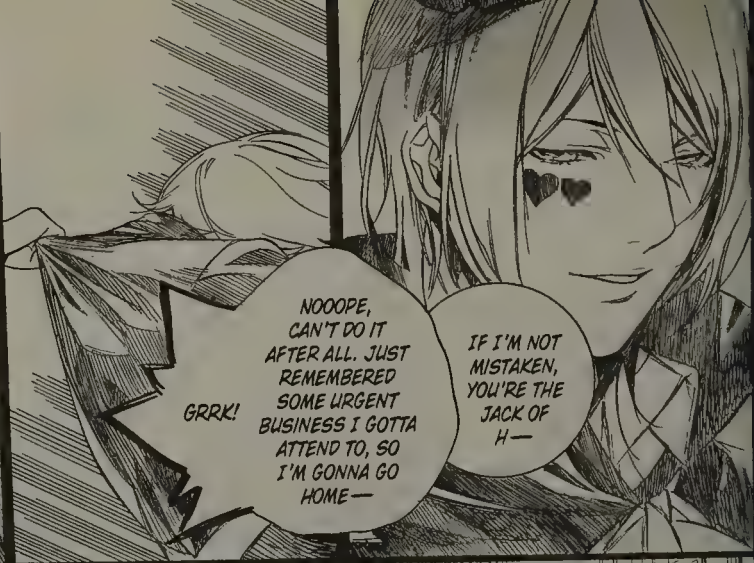
THAT'S 'COS
I'M ALICE,
Y'KNOW!

YOU
REALLY ARE
UNBELIEVABLY
FULL OF
YOURSELF...



THEN THERE'S
NO NEED FOR
YOU TO GO
ANYWHERE.

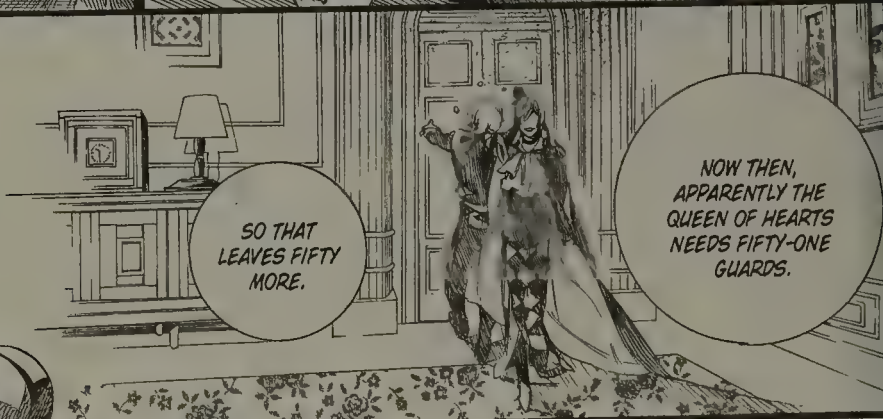
STARTING
TODAY, THIS
IS YOUR
HOME.



GRRK!

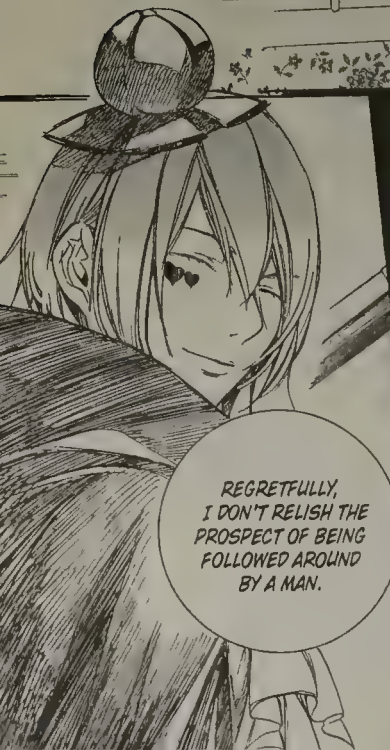
NOOOPE,
CAN'T DO IT
AFTER ALL. JUST
REMEMBERED
SOME URGENT
BUSINESS I GOTTA
ATTEND TO, SO
I'M GONNA GO
HOME—

IF I'M NOT
MISTAKEN,
YOU'RE THE
JACK OF
H—

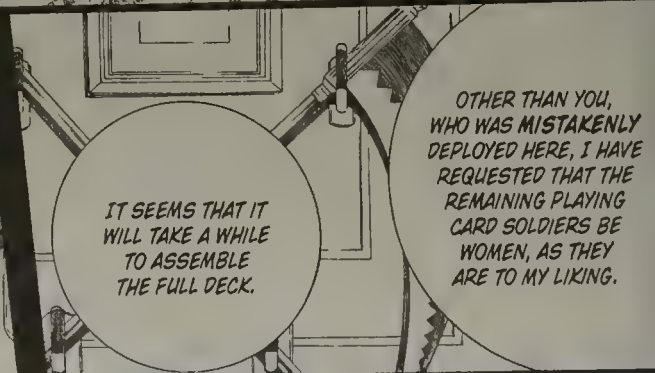


SO THAT
LEAVES FIFTY
MORE.

NOW THEN,
APPARENTLY THE
QUEEN OF HEARTS
NEEDS FIFTY-ONE
GUARDS.



REGRETFULLY,
I DON'T RELISH THE
PROSPECT OF BEING
FOLLOWED AROUND
BY A MAN.



IT SEEMS THAT IT
WILL TAKE A WHILE
TO ASSEMBLE
THE FULL DECK.

OTHER THAN YOU,
WHO WAS MISTAKENLY
DEPLOYED HERE, I HAVE
REQUESTED THAT THE
REMAINING PLAYING
CARD SOLDIERS BE
WOMEN, AS THEY
ARE TO MY LIKING.

...
TAKE—

MIS...

WHA—

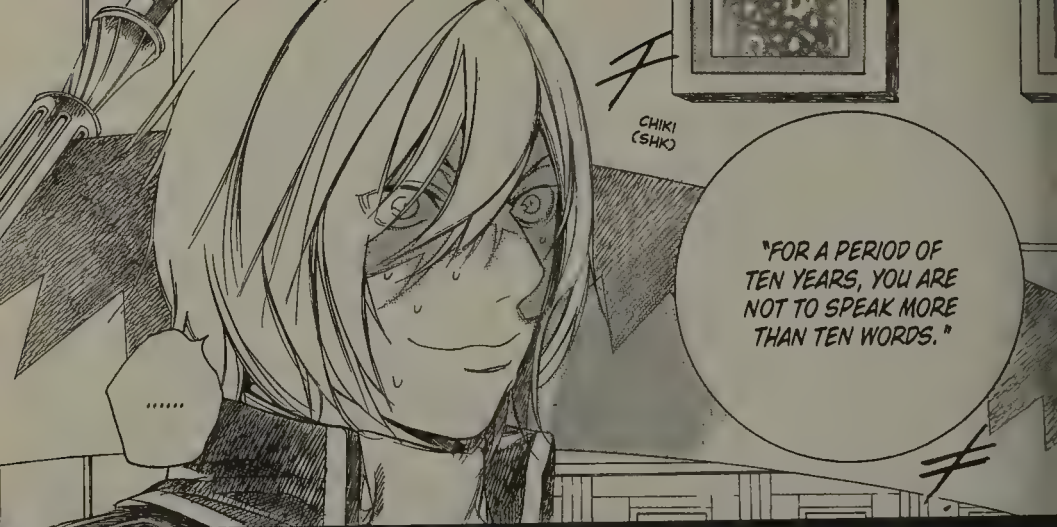


...EVEN
IN HER
MAJESTY'S
PRIVATE
INNERMOST
CHAMBER!

I SEE.

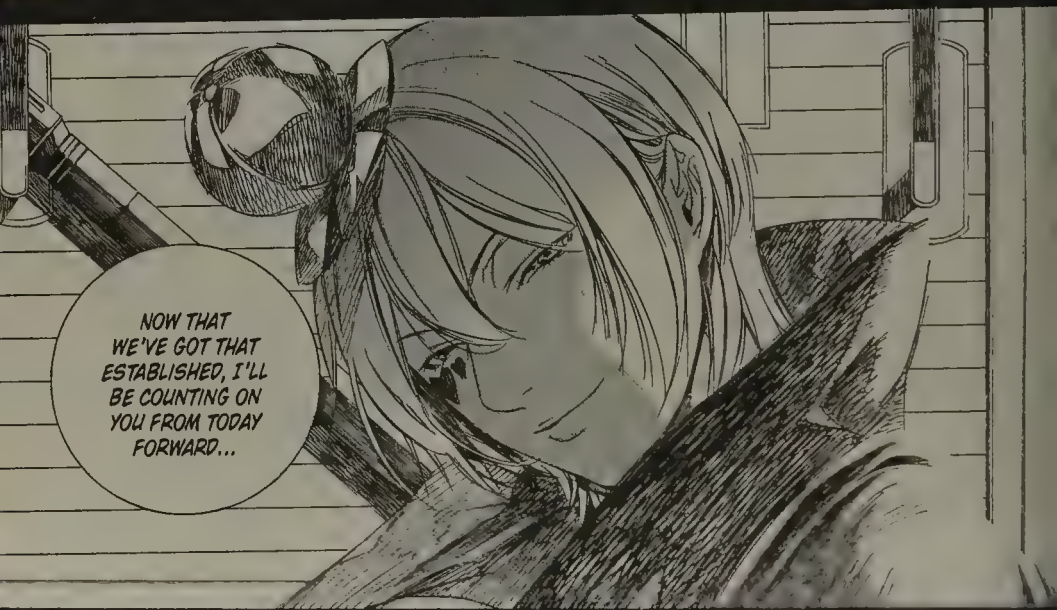
SO YOU ARE
TO BE MY FIRST
PLAYING CARD?

BAN
(BANG)



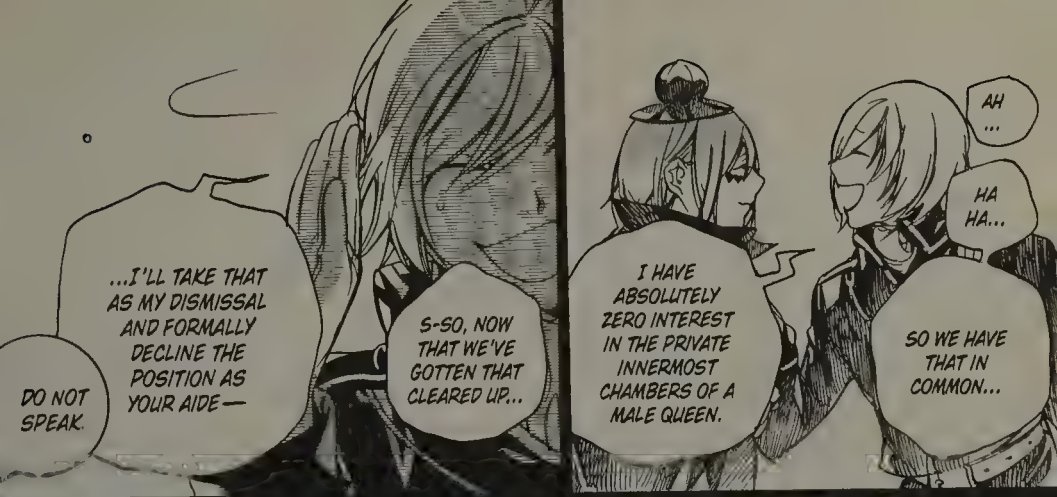
CHIKI
(SHK)

"FOR A PERIOD OF
TEN YEARS, YOU ARE
NOT TO SPEAK MORE
THAN TEN WORDS."



NOW THAT
WE'VE GOT THAT
ESTABLISHED, I'LL
BE COUNTING ON
YOU FROM TODAY
FORWARD...

...JACK OF
HEARTS.



DO NOT
SPEAK.

...I'LL TAKE THAT
AS MY DISMISSAL
AND FORMALLY
DECLINE THE
POSITION AS
YOUR AIDE —

S-SO, NOW
THAT WE'VE
GOTTEN THAT
CLEARED UP...

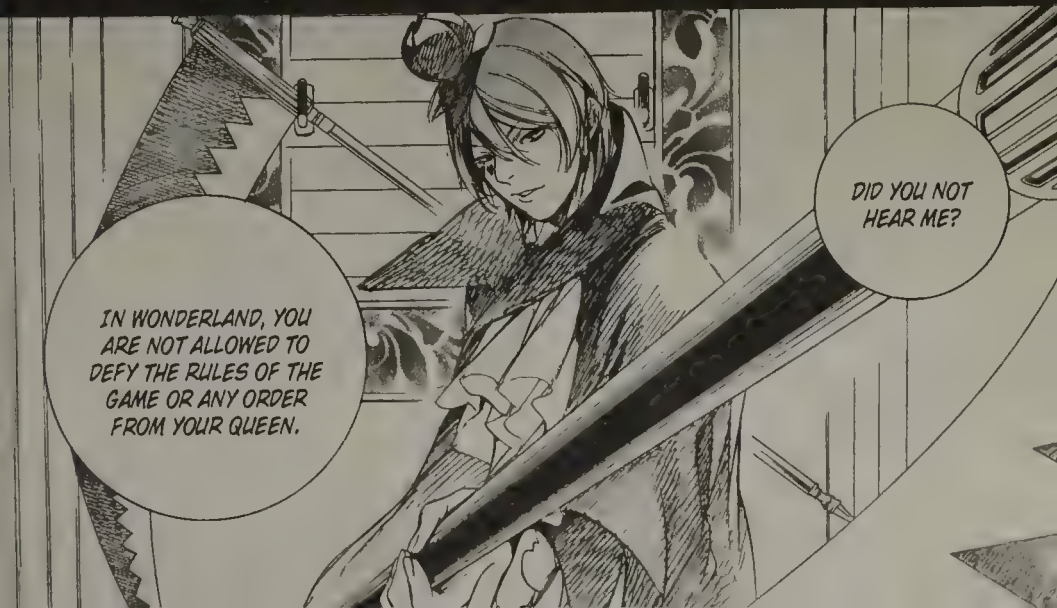
I HAVE
ABSOLUTELY
ZERO INTEREST
IN THE PRIVATE
INNERMOST
CHAMBERS OF A
MALE QUEEN.

SO WE HAVE
THAT IN
COMMON...

AH
...
HA
HA...



HUH!?



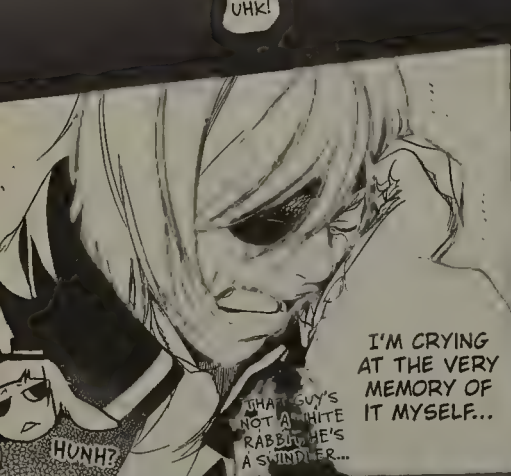
IN WONDERLAND, YOU
ARE NOT ALLOWED TO
DEFY THE RULES OF THE
GAME OR ANY ORDER
FROM YOUR QUEEN.

DID YOU NOT
HEAR ME?

UHK!

HIC!

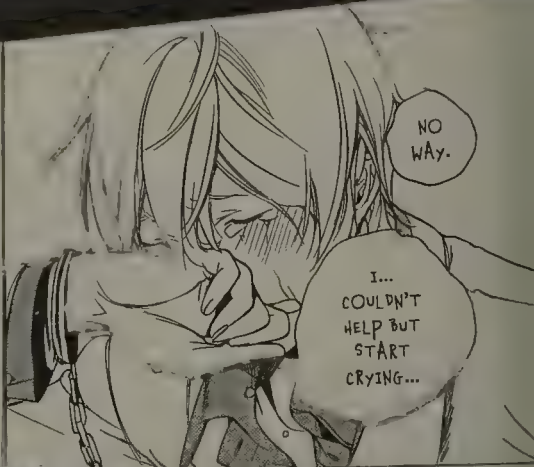
SNFF!



I'M CRYING
AT THE VERY
MEMORY OF
IT MYSELF...

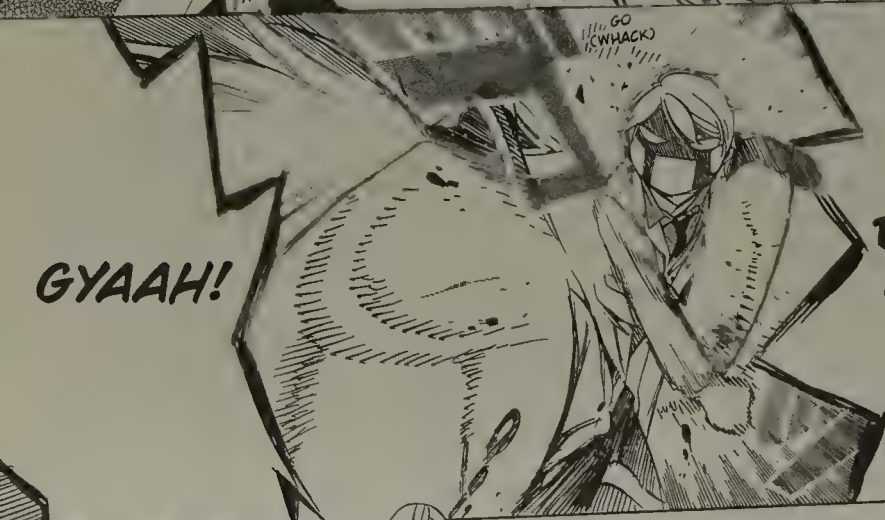
THAT GUY'S
NOT A WHITE
RABBIT HE'S
A SWINDLER...

HUNH?



NO
WAY.

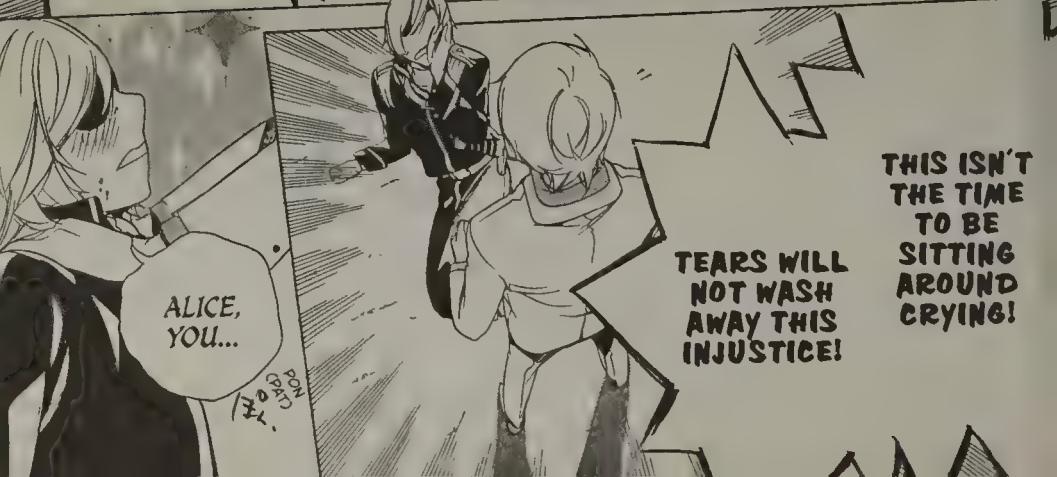
I...
COULDN'T
HELP BUT
START
CRYING...



GO
CWHACK

GYAAH!

DUMB-
ASS...!

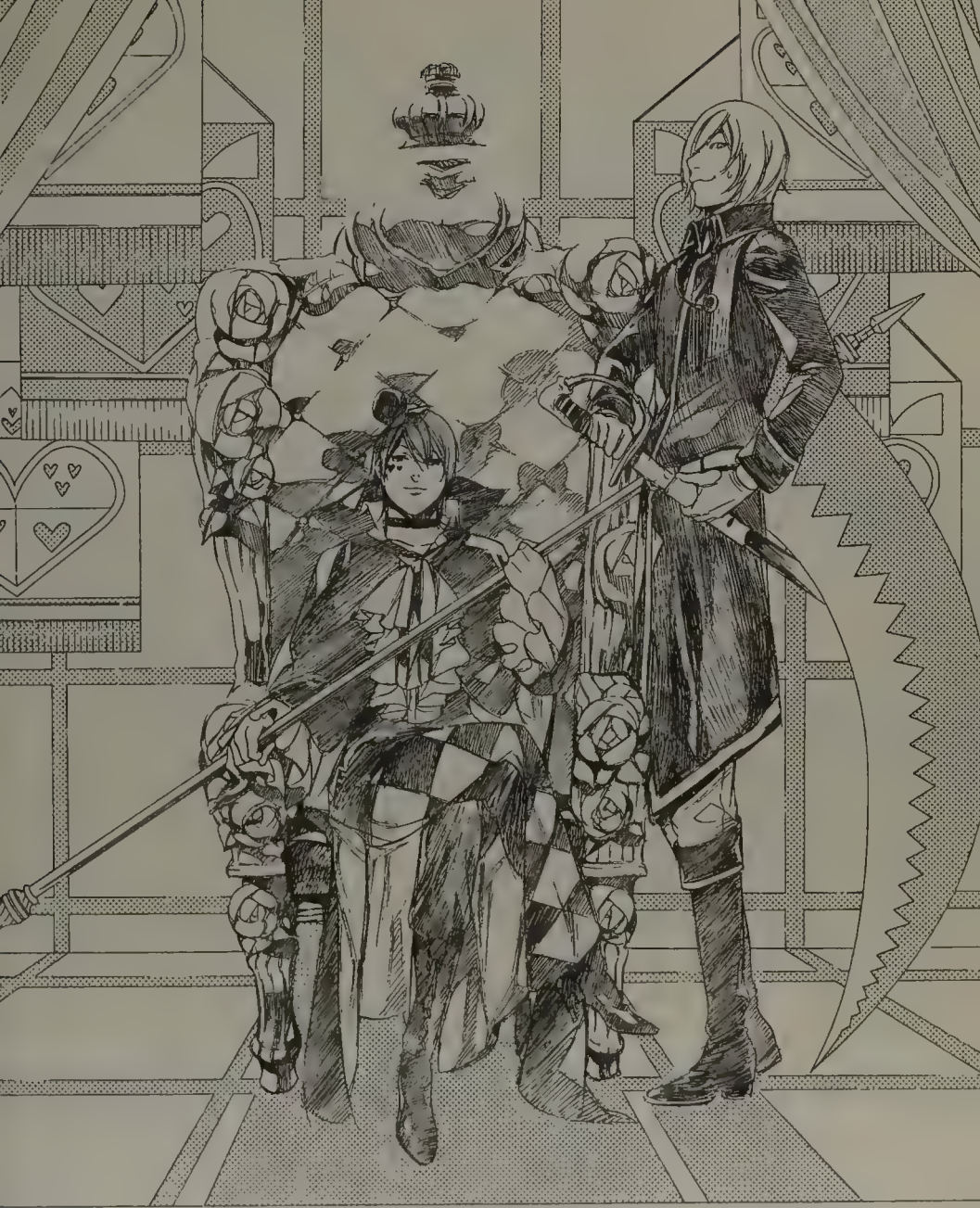


ALICE,
YOU...

DOO
GAD
FE!

TEARS WILL
NOT WASH
AWAY THIS
INJUSTICE!

THIS ISN'T
THE TIME
TO BE
SITTING
AROUND
CRYING!

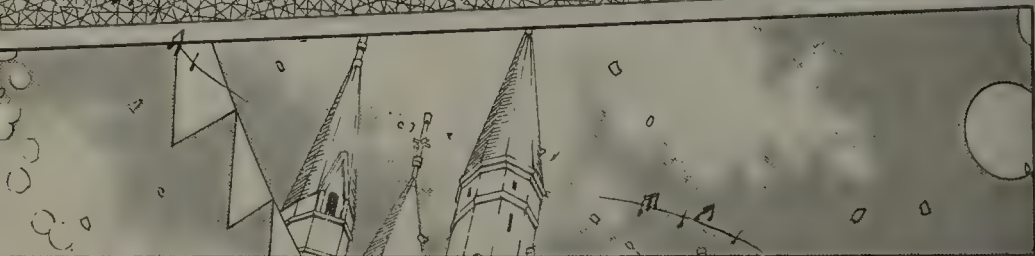


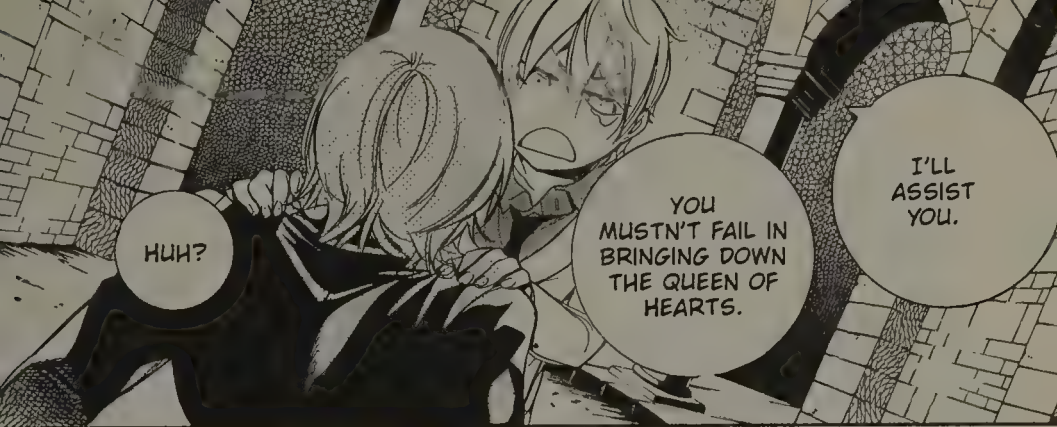
Chapter 40 Playing Cards.

...WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

BRINGING
POOR
CINDERELLA
TO THE
CASTLE!

THAT'S ACTUALLY
PRETTY IMPRESSIVE.
YOU REALLY ARE
A MAGIC FAIRY.

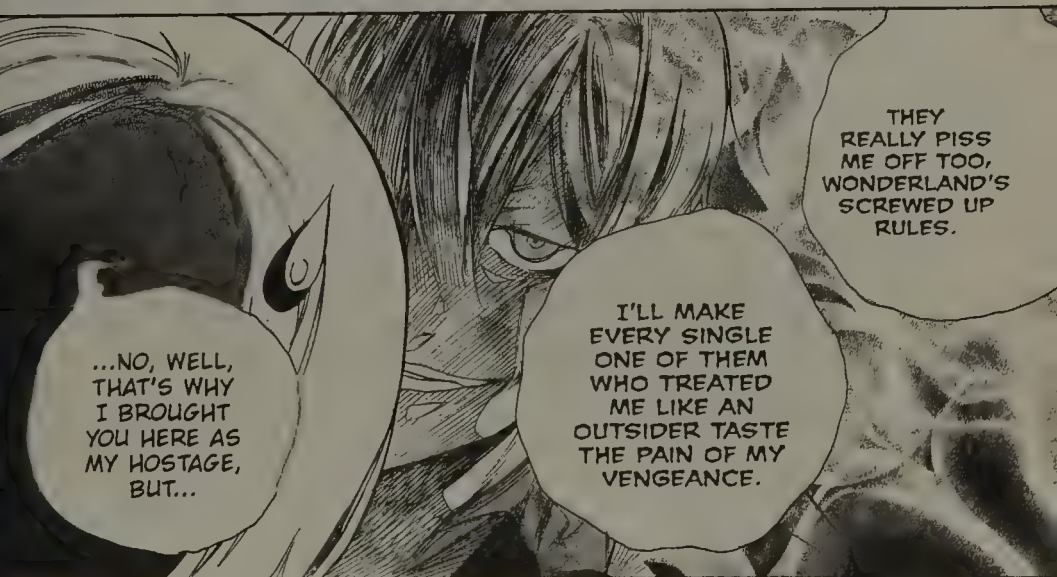




HUH?

YOU
MUSTN'T FAIL IN
BRINGING DOWN
THE QUEEN OF
HEARTS.

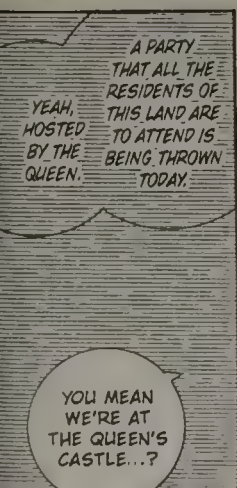
I'LL
ASSIST
YOU.



...NO, WELL,
THAT'S WHY
I BROUGHT
YOU HERE AS
MY HOSTAGE,
BUT...

I'LL MAKE
EVERY SINGLE
ONE OF THEM
WHO TREATED
ME LIKE AN
OUTSIDER TASTE
THE PAIN OF MY
VENGEANCE.

THEY
REALLY PISS
ME OFF TOO,
WONDERLAND'S
SCREWED UP
RULES.



A PARTY
THAT ALL THE
RESIDENTS OF
THIS LAND ARE
TO ATTEND IS
BEING THROWN
TODAY.

YEAH,
HOSTED
BY THE
QUEEN.

YOU MEAN
WE'RE AT
THE QUEEN'S
CASTLE...?



SOUNDS
LIKE THE
PARTY'S
STARTING.

THE
PARTY?

?
WHAT'S
THAT?

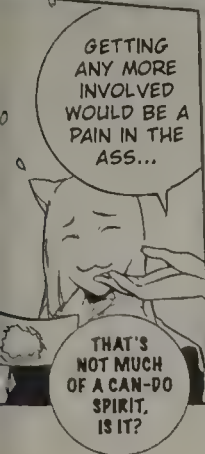
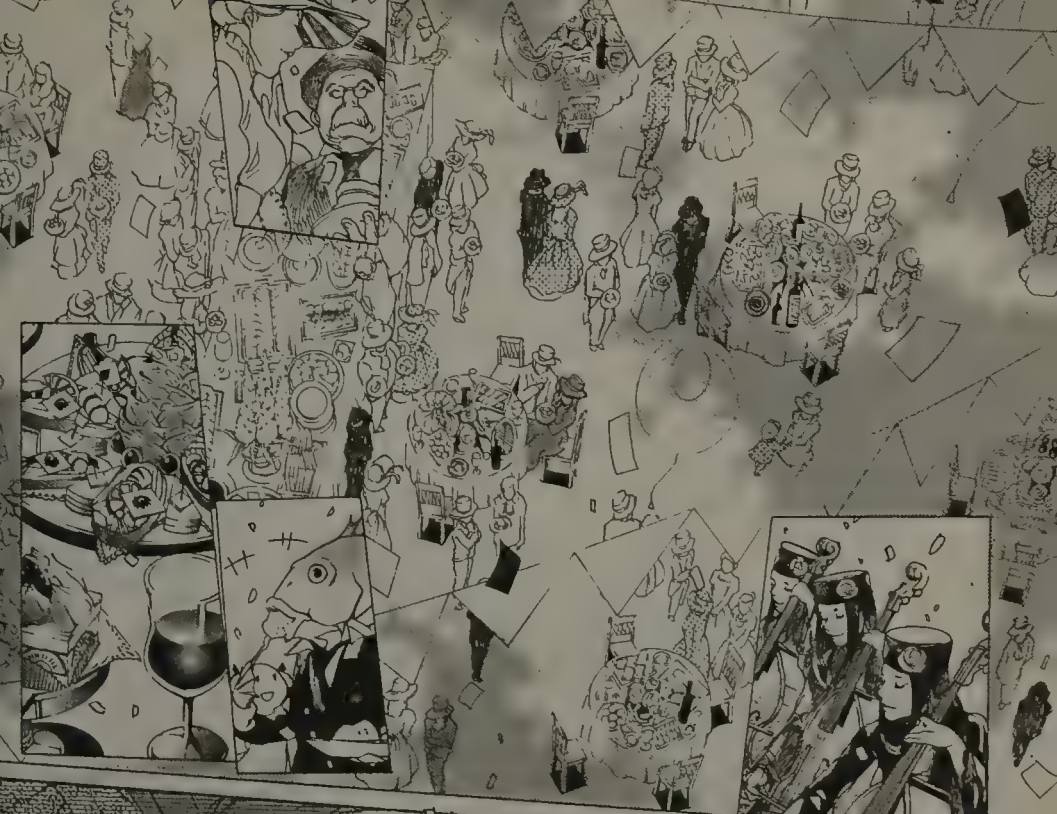


IF YOU HATE
IT SO MUCH,
YOU SHOULD'VE
WAITED AT
HOME LIKE A
GOOD BOY.

I'M
STARTING
TO THINK
YOU MIGHT
BE RIGHT... YEAH.

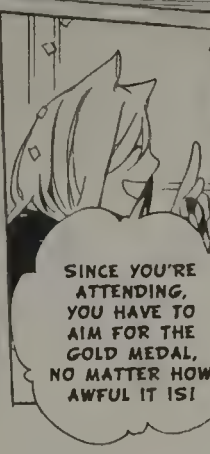
WOW, YOU
REALLY DON'T
WANT TO GET
INVOLVED—
NO RETORT!

YEAH.



GETTING
ANY MORE
INVOLVED
WOULD BE A
PAIN IN THE
ASS...

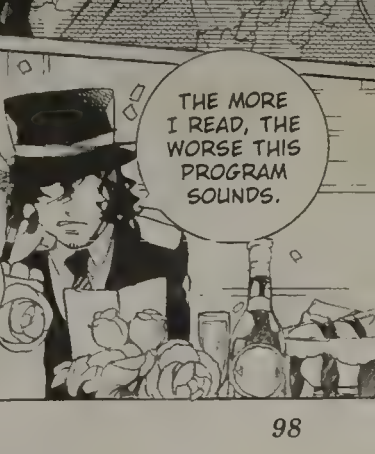
THAT'S
NOT MUCH
OF A CAN-DO
SPIRIT,
IS IT?



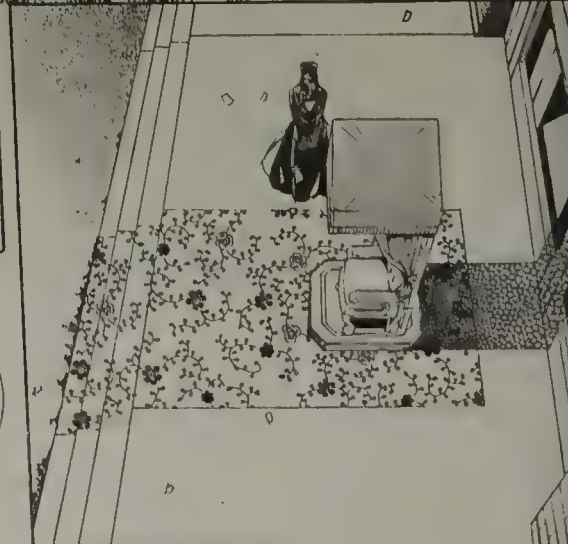
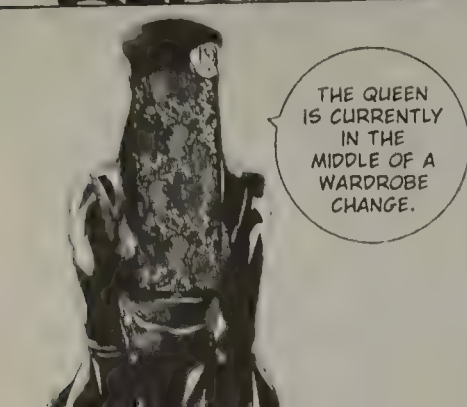
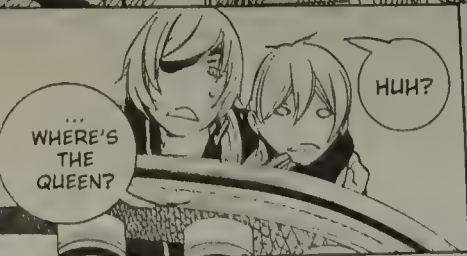
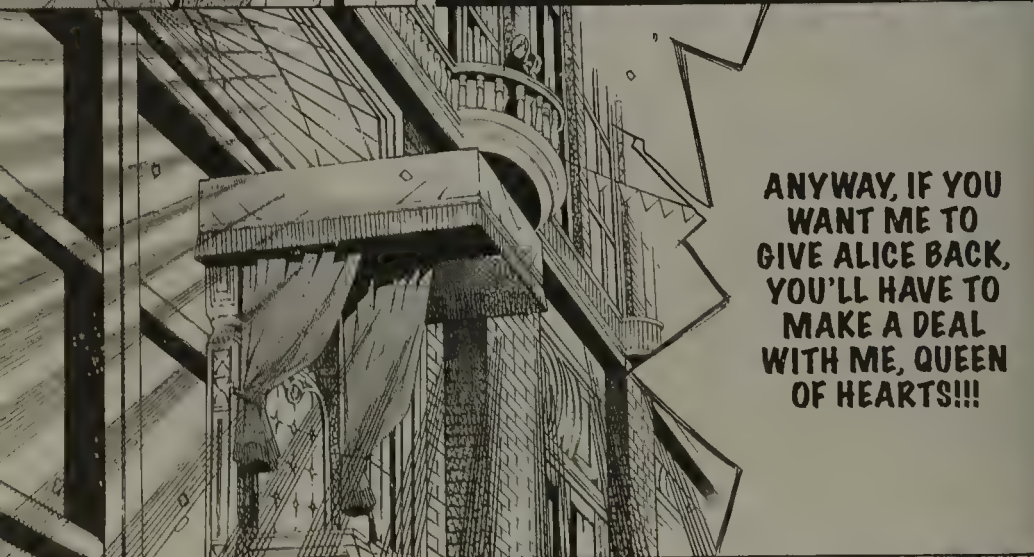
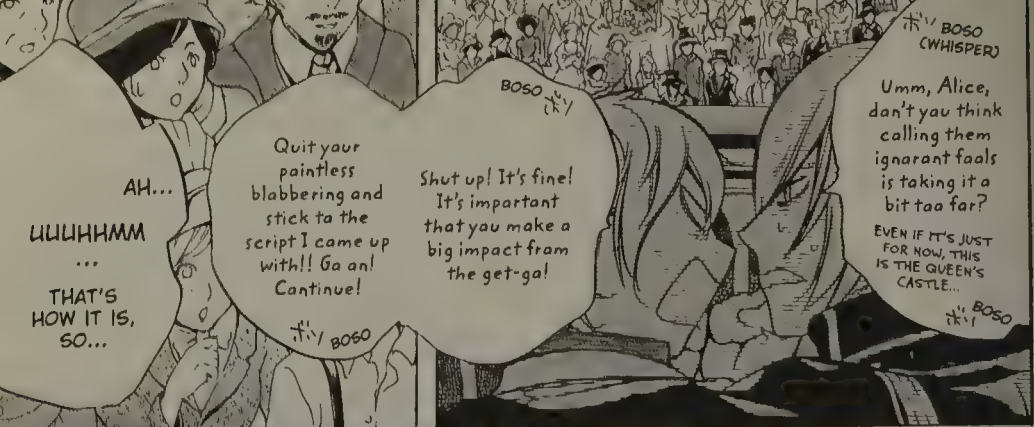
SINCE YOU'RE
ATTENDING,
YOU HAVE TO
AIM FOR THE
GOLD MEDAL,
NO MATTER HOW
AWFUL IT IS!



NO
SKIPPING
OUT NOW,
MISTER
HATTER!



THE MORE
I READ, THE
WORSE THIS
PROGRAM
SOUNDS.





WHAT?

I, THE
JACK OF
HEARTS,
HAVE
CAPTURED
ALICE IN
WONDER-
LAND!

HAAH
HA
HA
HA
HA!

IF YOU
VALUE HIS
LIFE, YOU'LL
DO AS I
SAY!

OH NOOO.
SAAAVE ME.
(MONOTONE)

SILENCE!
LISTEN
UP, YOU
IGNORANT
FOOLS!

...I
DON'T SEE
ANYTHING.

IT'S
ALICE.

ZAWA
CHURCH

ZAWA



OH? HE
IGNORED
ME.

A-ANYWAY!
HURRY UP
AND BRING
OUT THE
QUEEN OF
HEARTS!



HOLD ON,
ALICE.
CALM
DOWN!

EHHH!?

THIS PARTY
IS NOW THE
START OF
A COUP!



I'VE GOT
THIS! JUST
KEEP YOUR
MOUTH
SHUT!!

MAYBE YOU
SHOULD ACT
A LITTLE
MORE LIKE
A HOSTAGE
IN...

OH!
YES,
SIR!

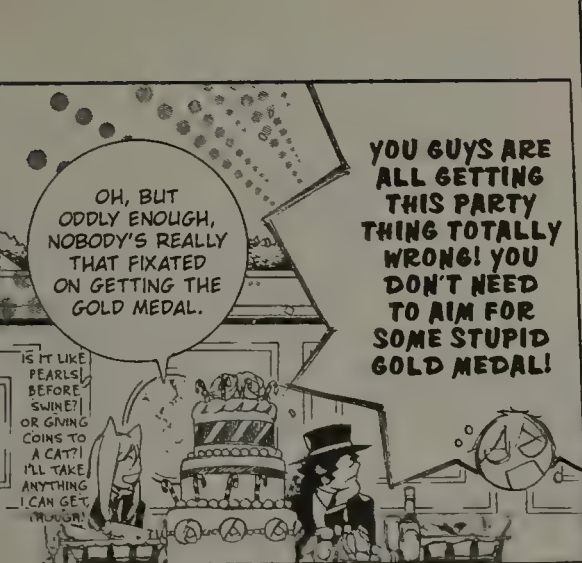


HM?

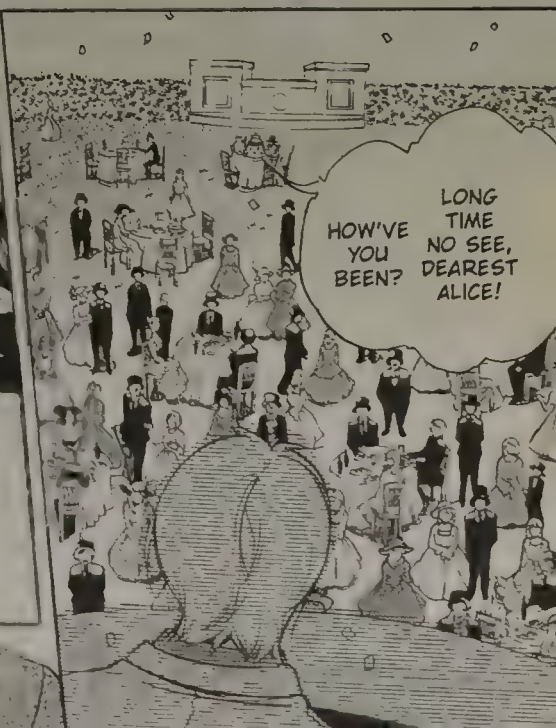
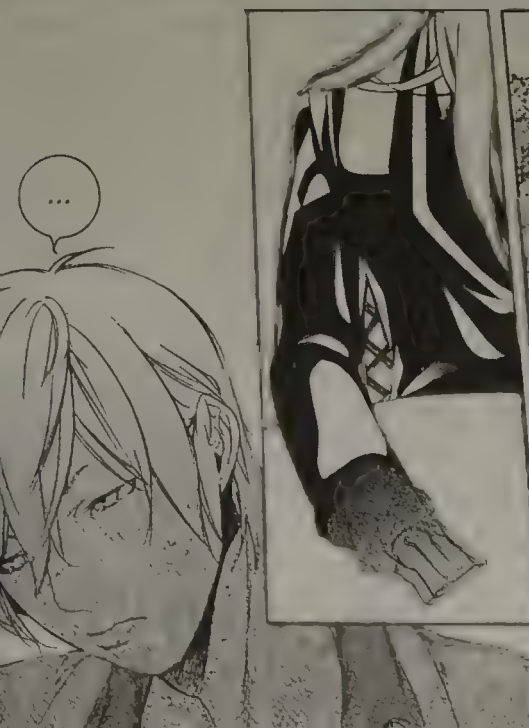
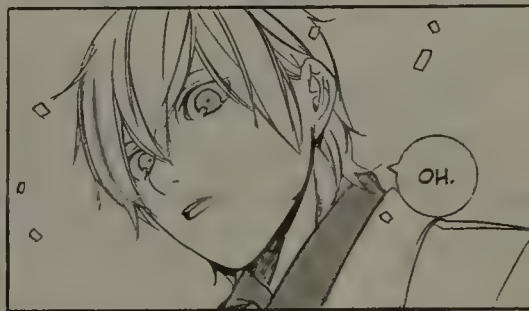
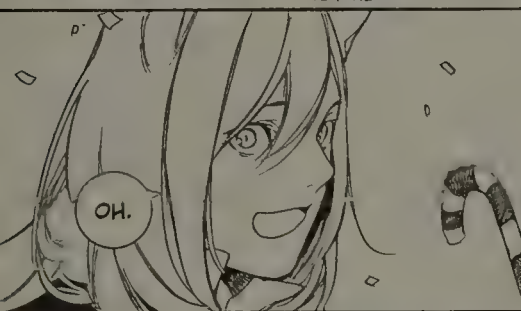
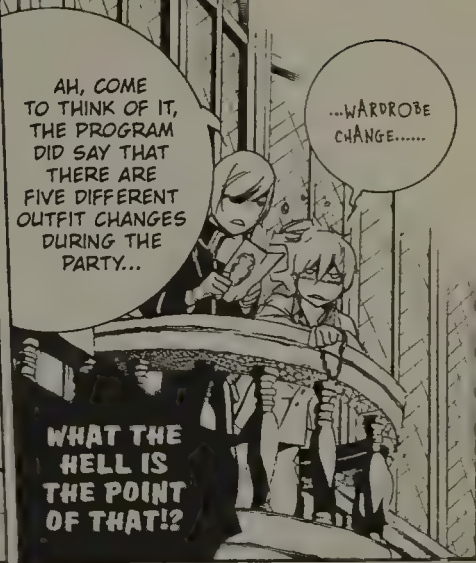
HEY,
USELESS!

NOT GONNA
GO SAVE
HIM?

UGH...



IGNORE.



GOOD
LUCK.

HEY!
HOLD
ON!

WAIT—
WHERE DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
GOING!?
SAVE ME,
DAMMIT!

WOULDN'T ME
SAVING YOU
GO AGAINST
THE RULES,
THEN?

WEREN'T
YOU GOING
TO PROTECT
YOURSELF?
AREN'T I
THE PERSON
YOU TRUST
THE LEAST?

...YOU'RE
...REALLY NOT
VERY POPULAR,
HUH...?

SHUT
UP!
DON'T
PITY
ME!

HOW IS THIS
THE TIME TO
BE CALMLY
DRINKING
TEA...!
HATTER
...!

BUT I THINK
IT'D BE BETTER
IF YOU WENT
TO SAVE HIM.

IT'S NOT
LIKE THE
QUEEN'S DOG
CAN KILL
ALICE OR
ANYTHING,
RIGHT?

THAT'S THE
ONLY TIME
YOU BRING OUT
THE CAN-DO
SPIRIT, HUH?

SIMPLY
TO GET
EVEN.

GATAN
(THUNK)

SO WHAT
DID YOU
ULTIMATELY
COME HERE
FOR, MISTER
HATTER?

YOU
REGRET
IT NOW,
DON'CHA
...!?

WHILE
YOU WERE
SLACKING,
LOOK AT THE
TERRIBLE
PREDICAMENT
ALICE ENDED
UP IN!

HAH!
HOW
ABOUT
THIS?

SO YOU
FINALLY
SHOW
YOURSELF,
HATTER!

JARA
(JANGLE)

OH,
SO THAT'S
WHAT YOU'RE
PLAYING AT.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I'M A
HOSTAGE,
CLEARLY.

I'M NOT
"PLAYING"
AT ANY-
THING!

WHAT'S
REGRETTABLE
IS THE
PITIFUL SIZE
OF YOUR
BRAIN.
WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
TRYING TO
ACCOMPLISH
BY COMING
HERE?

GET
YOUR ASS
UP HERE
AND SAVE
ME, MORON!
SWEET-
TOOTHED
BASTARD!

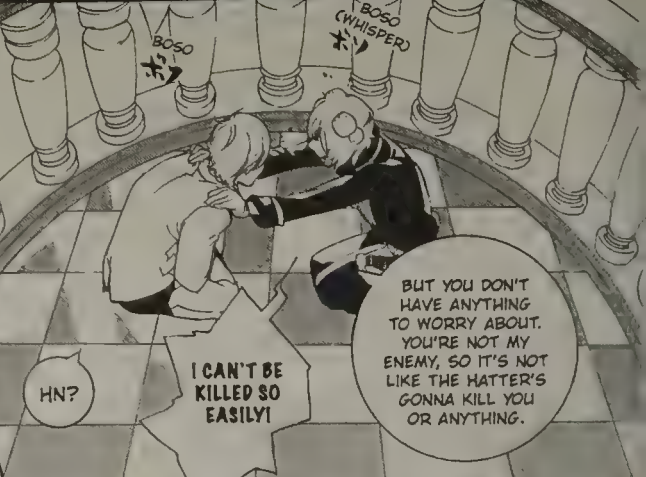
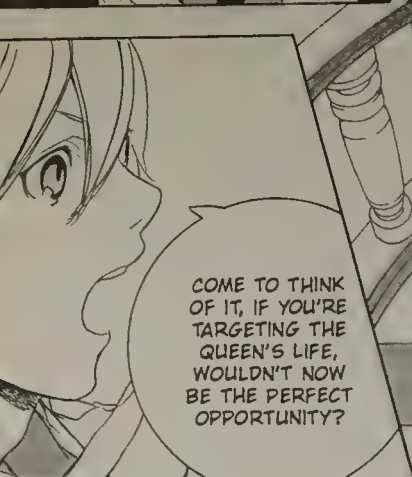
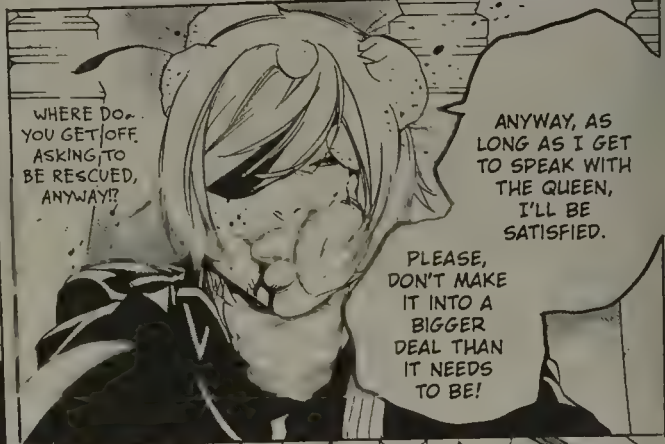
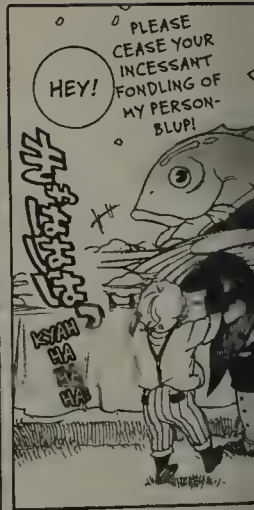
WHAT'RE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?

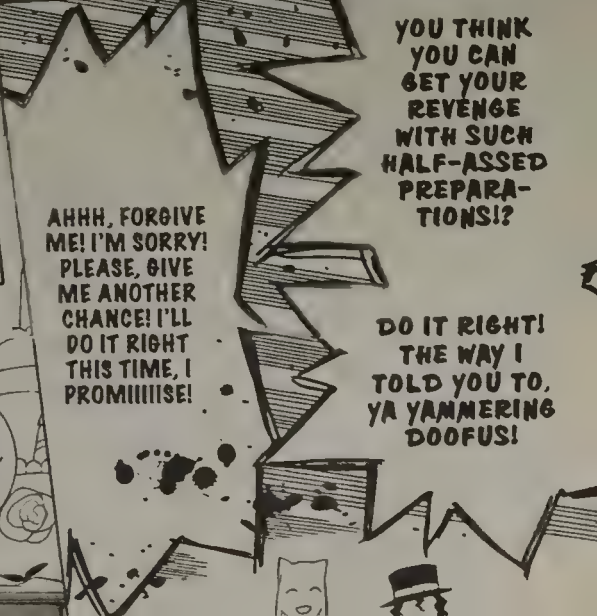
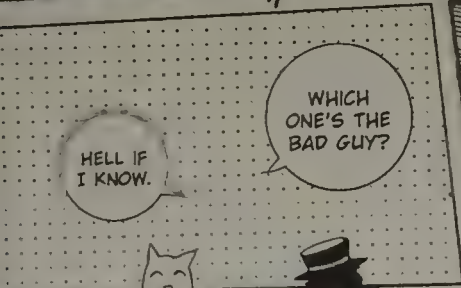
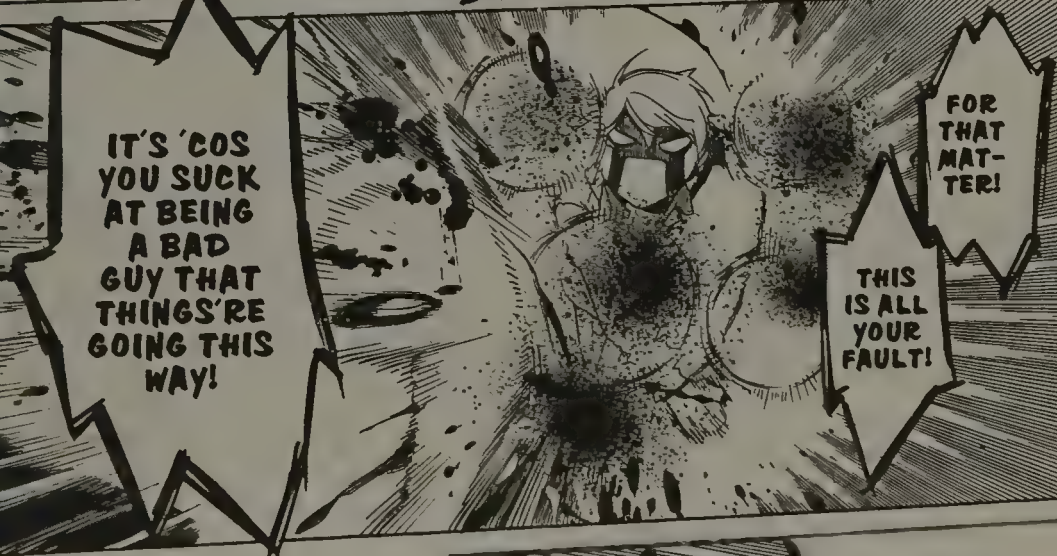
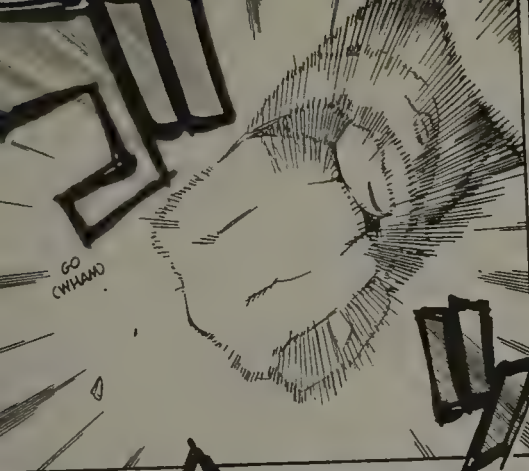
HOW
DO YOU
NOT GET
WHAT'S
GOING ON
HERE!?
CAN'T YOU SEE
THAT ALICE
IS IN GRAVE
DANGER!?

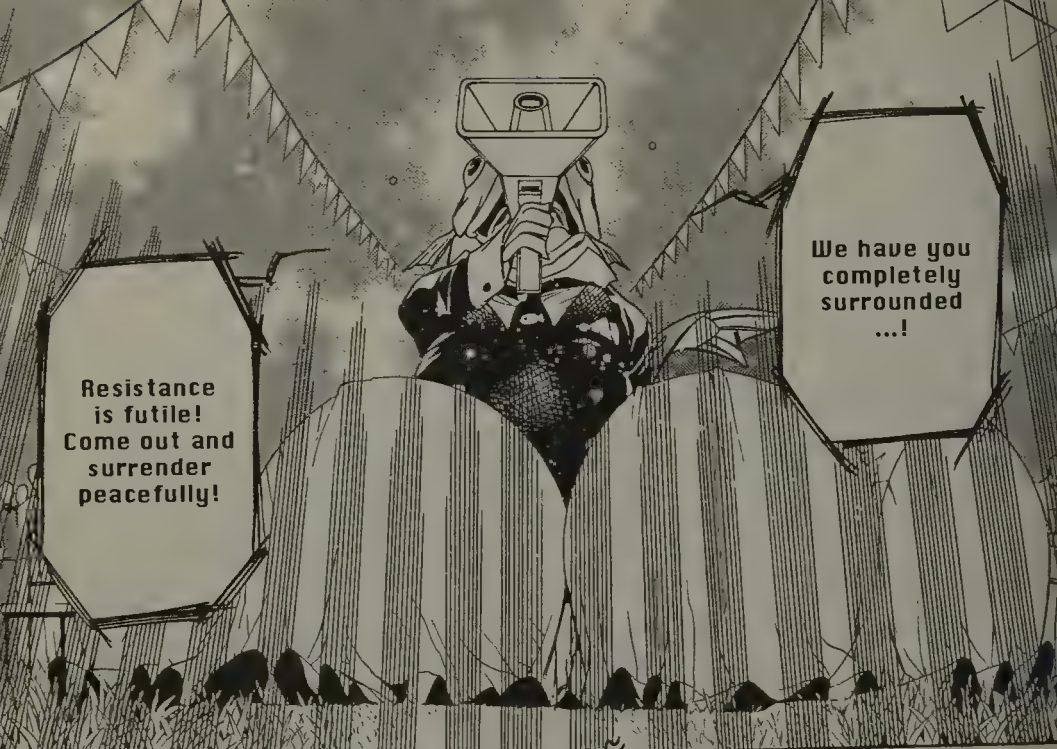
EITHER
WAY, YOU'RE
CAUSING A
DISRUPTION,
SO HURRY
UP AND GO
HOME.

IT DEFEATS
THE PURPOSE
OF THE
HOLIDAY IF
YOU'RE HERE.

GO HOME,
YOU SAY...

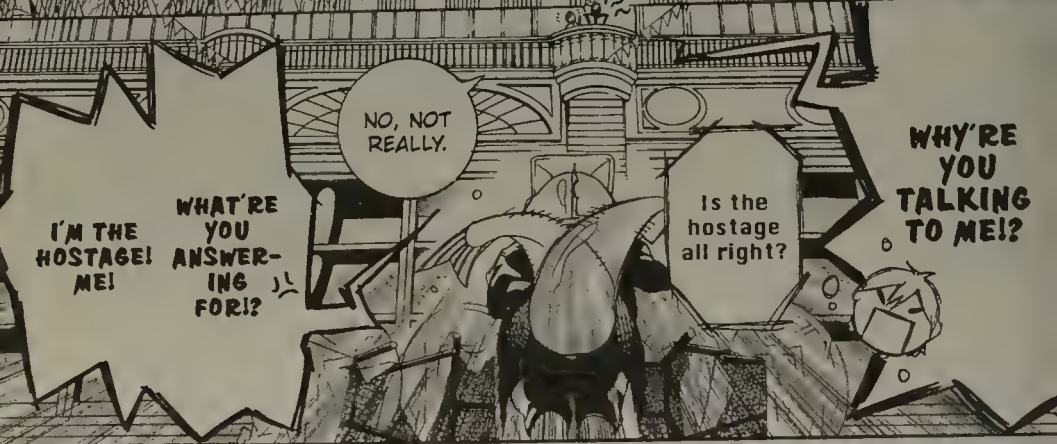






Resistance
is futile!
Come out and
surrender
peacefully!

We have you
completely
surrounded
...!



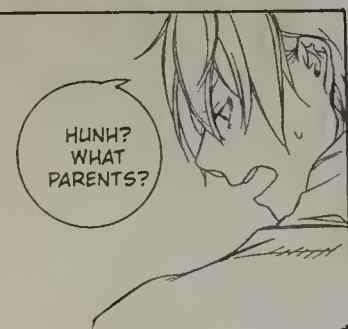
I'M THE
HOSTAGE!
ME!

WHAT'RE
YOU
ANSWER-
ING
FOR!?

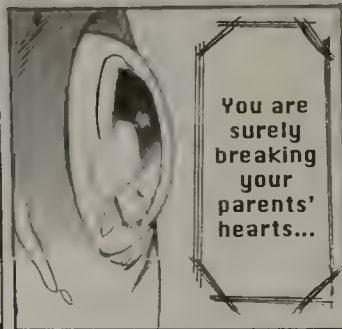
NO, NOT
REALLY.

Is the
hostage
all right?

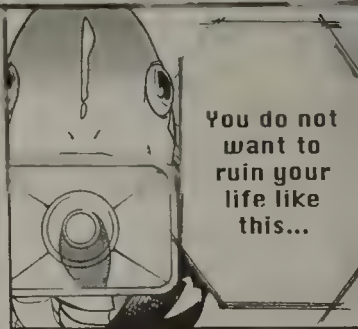
WHY'RE
YOU
TALKING
TO ME!?



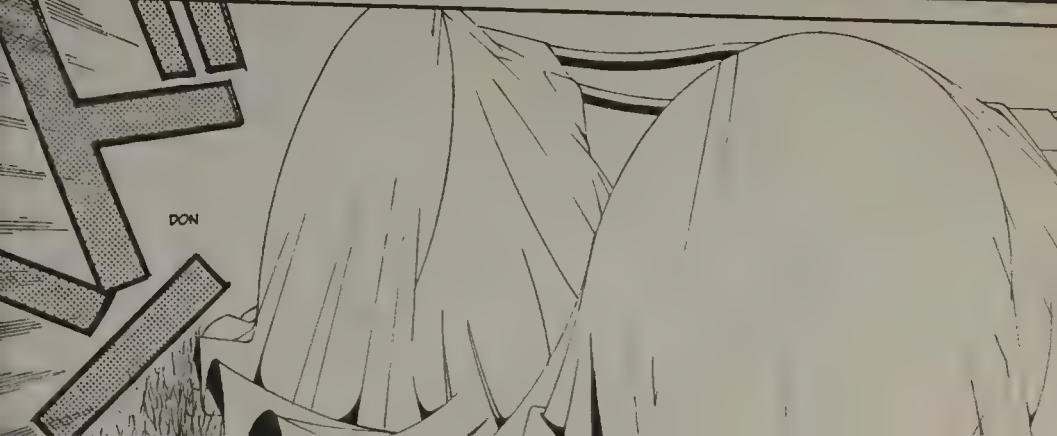
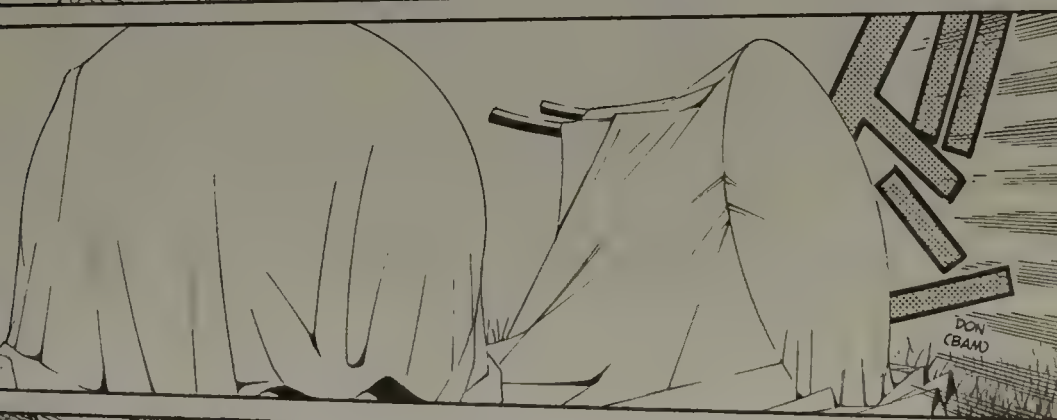
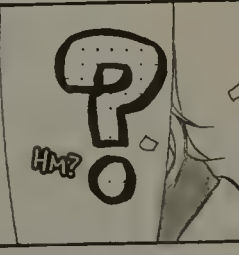
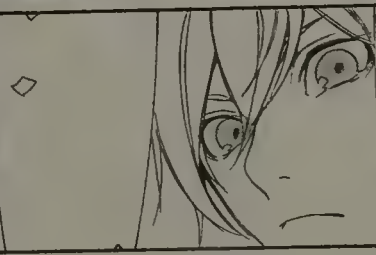
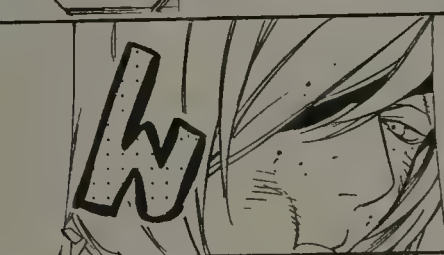
HUNH?
WHAT
PARENTS?



You are
surely
breaking
your
parents'
hearts...



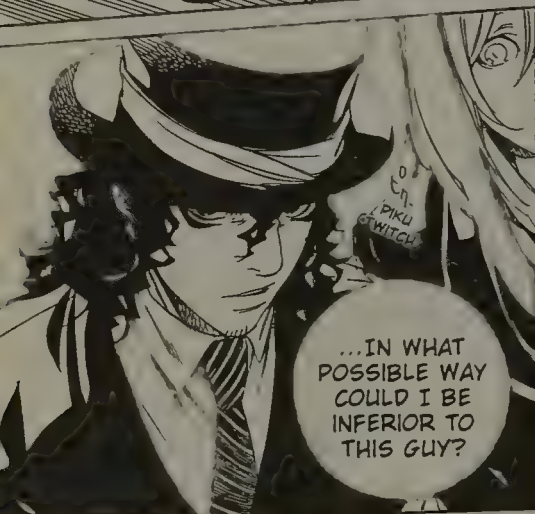
You do not
want to
ruin your
life like
this...



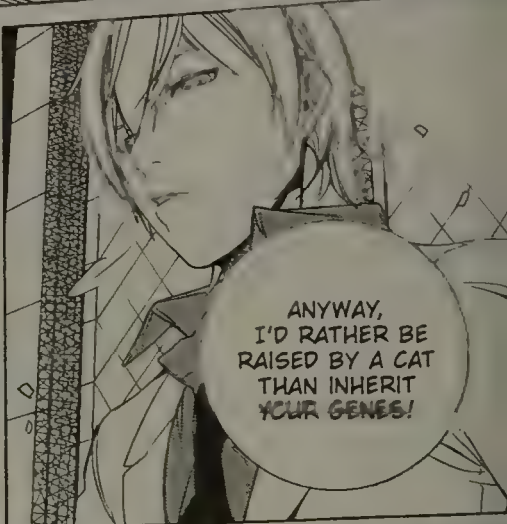
THAT'S JUST
YOUR OWN
PERSONAL
PROBLEM!

THE WAY
YOU BOTH ARE
CONSTANTLY
GETTING ON MY
NERVES. YOU
MUST HAVE
IDENTICAL
GENES.

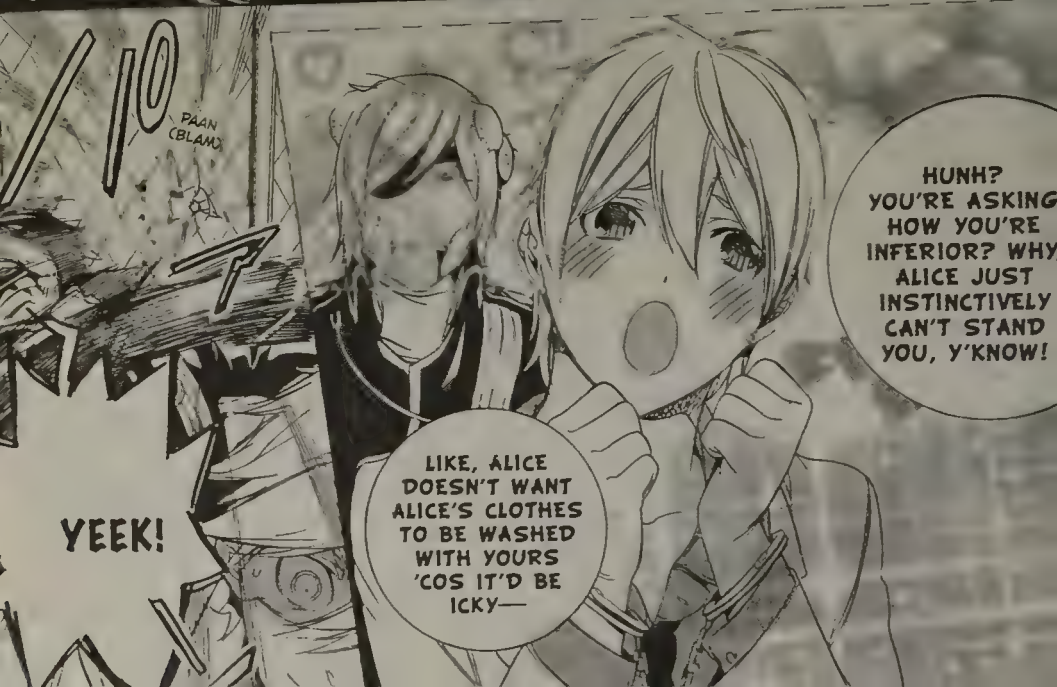
YOU GOTTA
BE FRICKIN'
KIDDING ME!
IN WHAT WAY
DO I RESEMBLE
THAT GUY!?



...IN WHAT
POSSIBLE WAY
COULD I BE
INFERIOR TO
THIS GUY?



ANYWAY,
I'D RATHER BE
RAISED BY A CAT
THAN INHERIT
YOUR GENES!



HUNH?
YOU'RE ASKING
HOW YOU'RE
INFERIOR? WHY
ALICE JUST
INSTINCTIVELY
CAN'T STAND
YOU, Y'KNOW!

LIKE, ALICE
DOESN'T WANT
ALICE'S CLOTHES
TO BE WASHED
WITH YOURS
'COS IT'D BE
ICKY—

LIAR!

It's me,
your daddy.

PERSONALLY, I
WOULD SOONER
BE FILLETED-
BLUP.

HUH?
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH IT?

WOULD I
MAKE SUCH
A TERRIBLE
DADDY?

...
WOULDN'T
THAT JUST
SEND HIM
FARTHER
DOWN THE
WRONG
PATH?

I'D
RATHER
DIE THAN
HAVE A
FATHER
LIKE YOU!

WITH A CAT
FOR A FATHER
I WOULD HAVE
STOLEN MY
SENTENCES
WITH MEOW.

BUT I SUPPOSE HE
DOES RESEMBLE YOU.
IT WOULDN'T BE LONG
BEFORE ANY BRAT
YOU RAISED TURNED
TO A LIFE OF CRIME.

I'M SURE
A SON OF
YOURS
WOULD
BE JUST
LIKE HIM.

YOUR METHOD
IS TOO
CLICHÉD.

STRANGE.
BRINGING THE
PARENTS OUT IS A
PRETTY STANDARD
WAY OF TRYING
TO PERSUADE
CRIMINALS...

AAAAARGH!

Y-Y-YOU
LUNATIC!
WHAT'VE
YOU BEEN
TRYING
TO DO
THIS
WHOLE
TIME!?

BECAUSE
OF YOU,
EVERY-
THING'S
GONE
SIDWAYS!!

IT WAS
ENTIRELY
YOUR
FAULT!!!

WHAT
KIND OF
LOGIC IS
THAT!?

SHIT!
I DON'T REALLY
GET WHY, BUT
LOOKS LIKE I
STEPPED ON A
LAND MINE!?

AWW,
CRAM IT
ALREADY!
WHY IS IT
ALWAYS
MY FAULT!?
WHAT
HAPPENED
JUST NOW
WASN'T MY
FAULT!

UHM,
SEEMS LIKE
THINGS HAVE
GONE FROM BAD
TO WORSE, BUT
I WONDER WHO
THE BAD GUY
IS NOW?

OH,
IT IS?

IT'S YOU,
YOU STUPID
CAT! IT'S ALL
BEEN YOUR
FAULT FROM
THE START!
NOW PAY
FOR IT WITH
YOUR LIFE!

PIKU
(SWITCH)

PIKU

PAAN

THAT WAS
DANGEROUS!
WHAT THE HELL
DO YOU THINK
YOU'RE DOING!?
WHAT IF YOU'D
HIT ME!?

PARA
(TINKLE?)

NO?
!!

...!

GYO
(SHOCK)

IT'S ONE
THING FOR
YOU TO
SAY IT...

YOU DARE
TALK CRAP
ABOUT
ME WHILE
TALKING
AS ALICE IN
THE THIRD
PERSON!?

...BUT
DON'T THINK
I'M GONNA
PUT UP WITH
YOU SAYING
IT IN ALICE'S
NAME!

JAKI
(KACHIKO)

WAIT,
THAT'S ALL
IT TOOK TO
MAKE IT
OKAY?

...ALL
RIGHT.

I DON'T
THINK IT'S
ALL OKAY,
THOUGH...

IT IS OKAY.
ALL'S WELL
THAT ENDS
WELL...

GUCHAA
(WRECKED)

JARA
(JANGLE)

JUST TO
CLARIFY,
I AM THE
HOSTAGE
HERE!

WOULD
IT KILL
YOU GUYS
TO SHOW
A LITTLE
CON—

...
ALTHOUGH
...

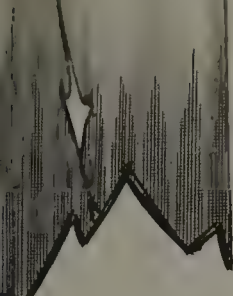
...I REALLY
HAVE NO
CLUE WHAT'S
EVEN
GOING ON
ANymore...

WE NEED TO
START OVER
FROM THE
BEGINNING.

HAAA
(SIGH)

GAH!!

GU
(YANK)



AAAGH,
ALL RIGHT,
ALL RIGHT!



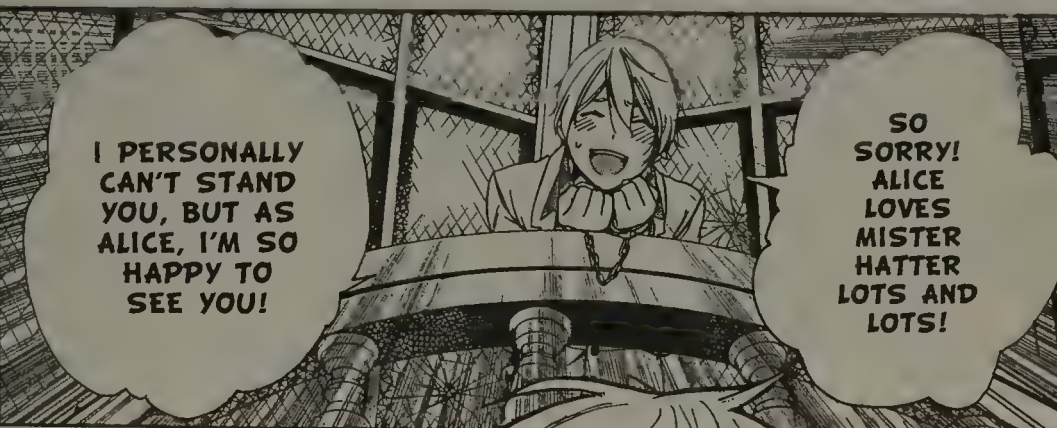
ALICE!
HURRY UP
AND DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT THE
HATTER
ALREADY!

WHY'RE YOU
APOLOGIZING
TO ME...?



PAAN
(BLAM)

SORRY,
ALICE DEAR!
GUESS I'M
TO BLAME!



I PERSONALLY
CAN'T STAND
YOU, BUT AS
ALICE, I'M SO
HAPPY TO
SEE YOU!

SO
SORRY!
ALICE
LOVES
MISTER
HATTER
LOTS AND
LOTS!



ALICE
JUST
WANTS
TO SEE
MISTER
HATTER'S
SMILING
FACE!



PAAA
(PRRT)

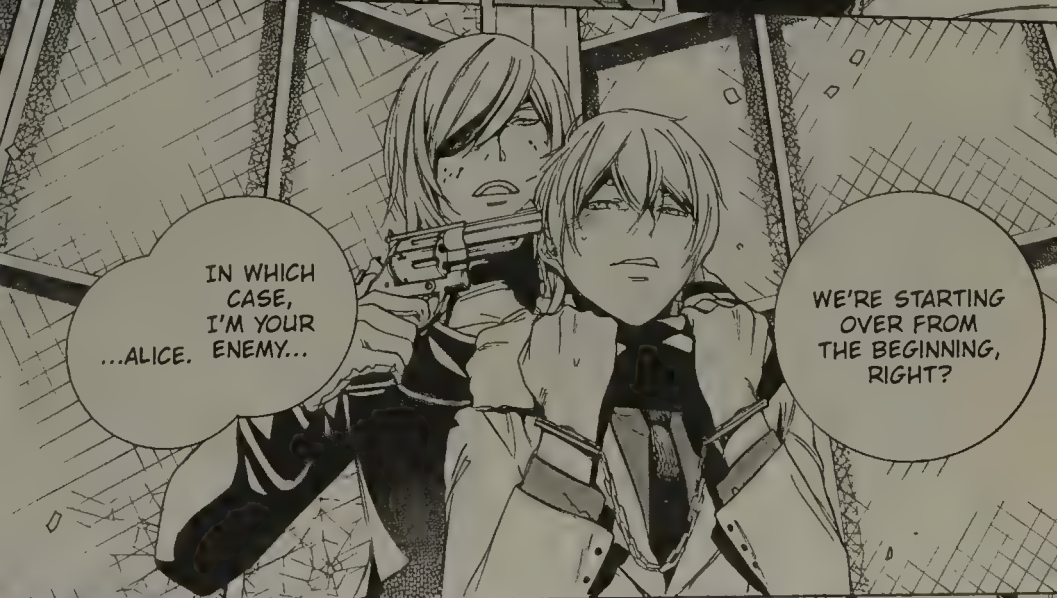
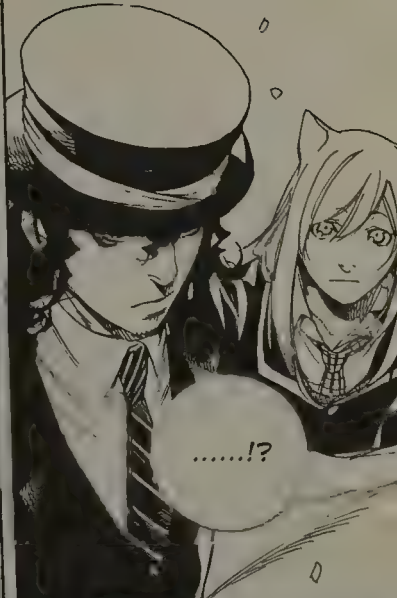
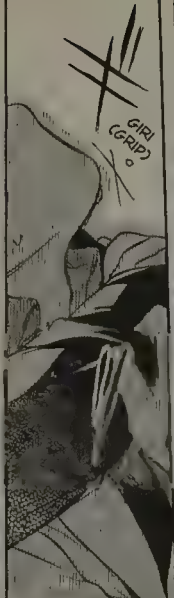
PA

PAAA

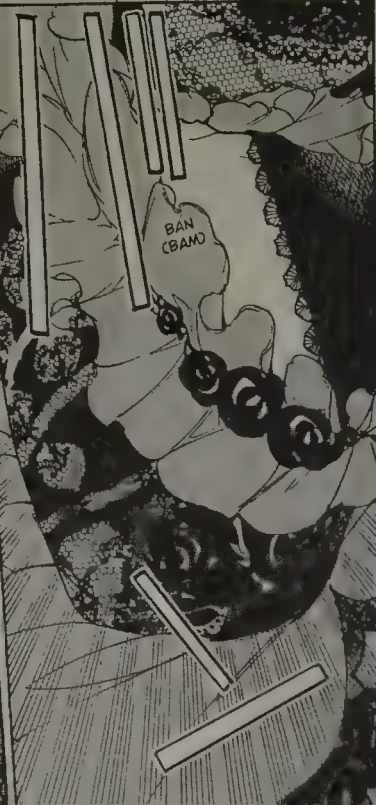
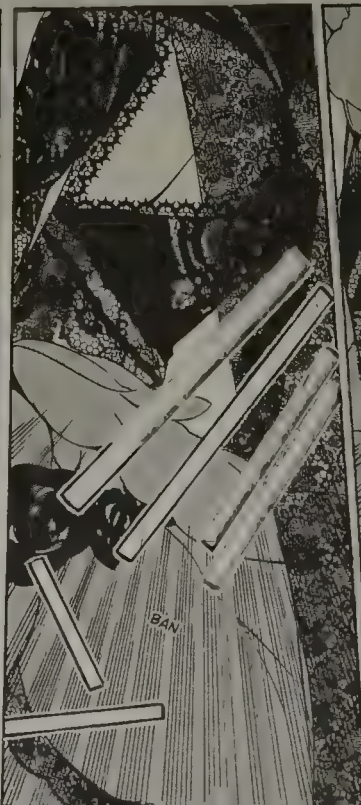
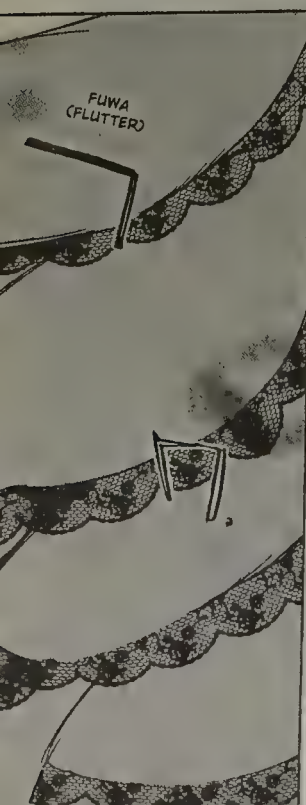
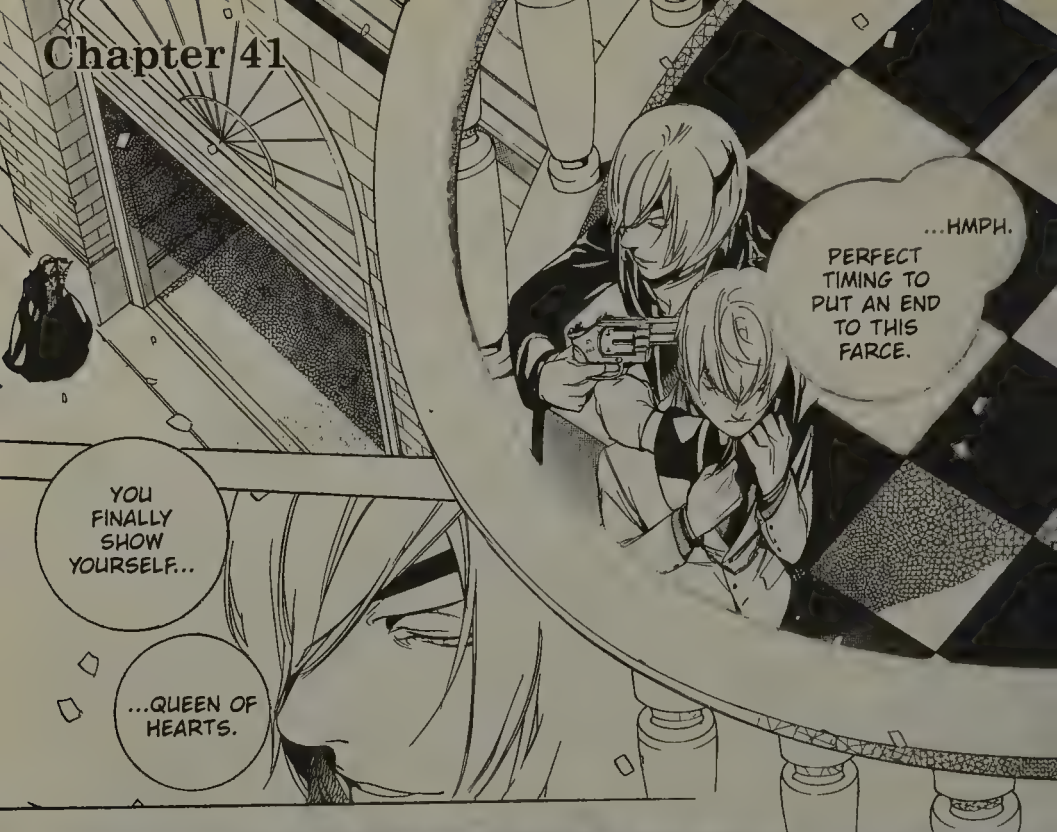
BLUP!!

THE QUEEN
RETURNS.

SILENCE,
EVERYONE.



Chapter 41



34.
KO
(CLUCK)

YOU
FINALLY SHOW
YOURSELF...

...HMPH.

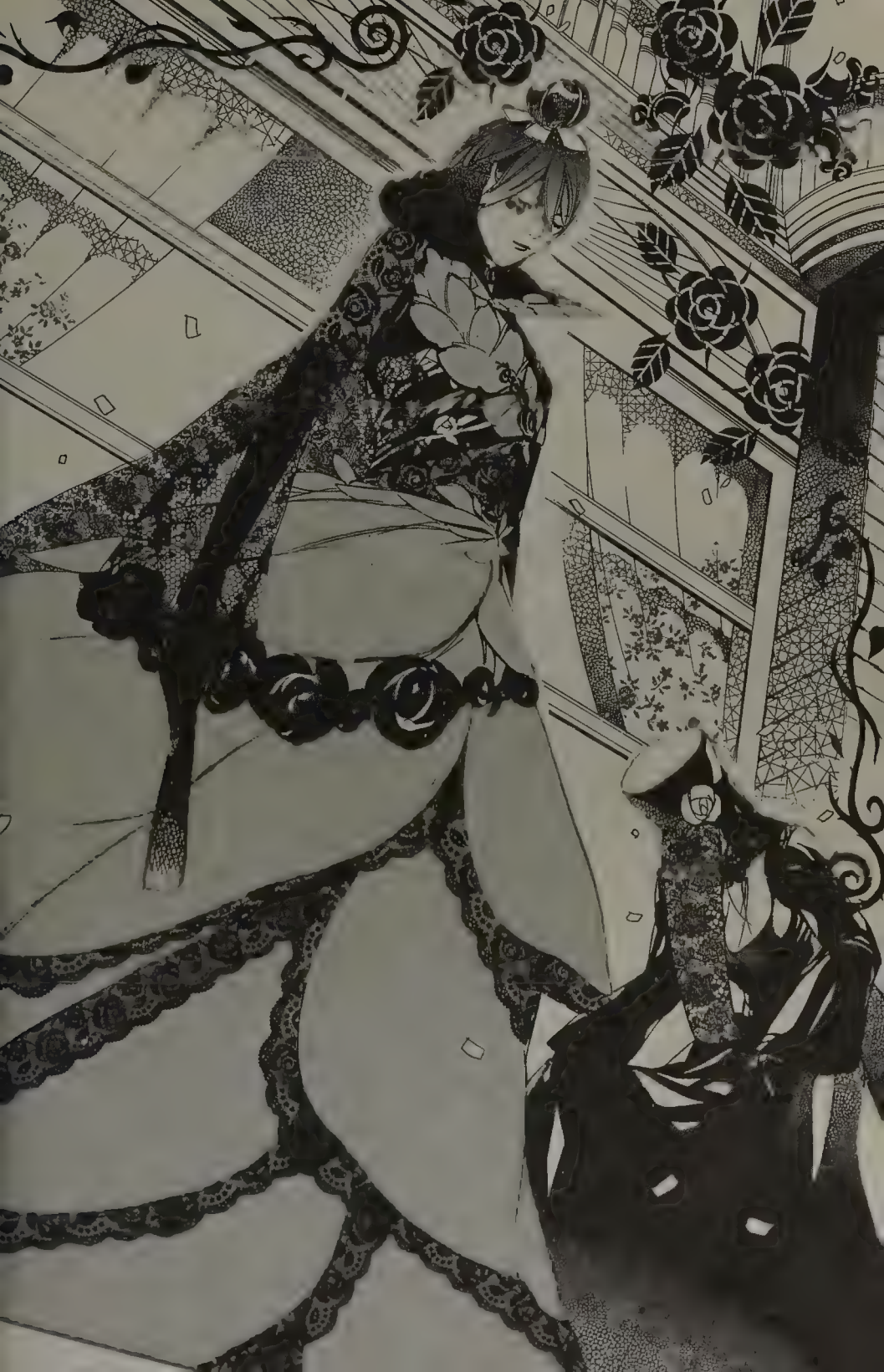
PERFECT
TIMING TO PUT
AN END TO
THIS FARCE.

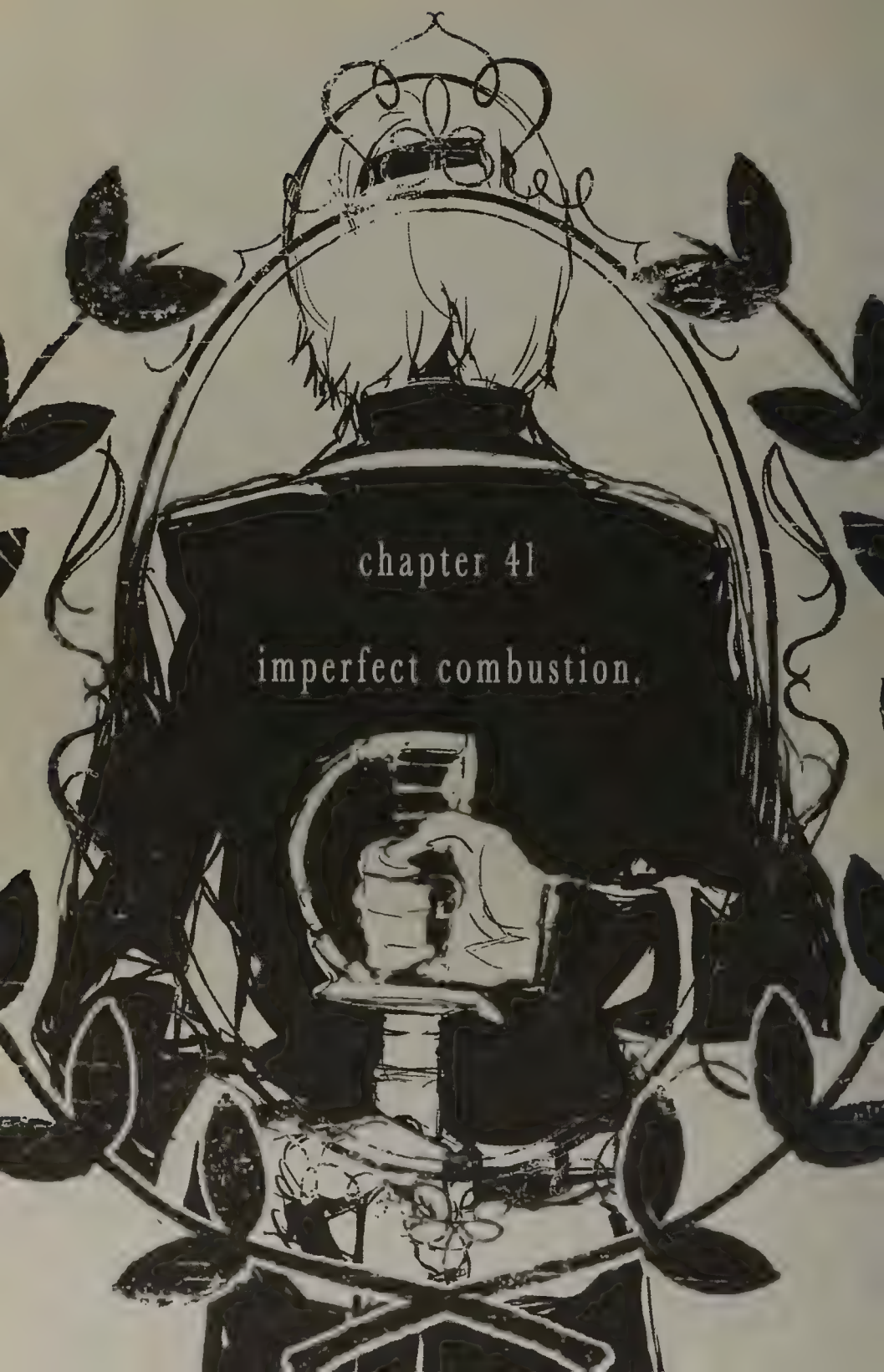
...QUEEN OF
HEARTS.





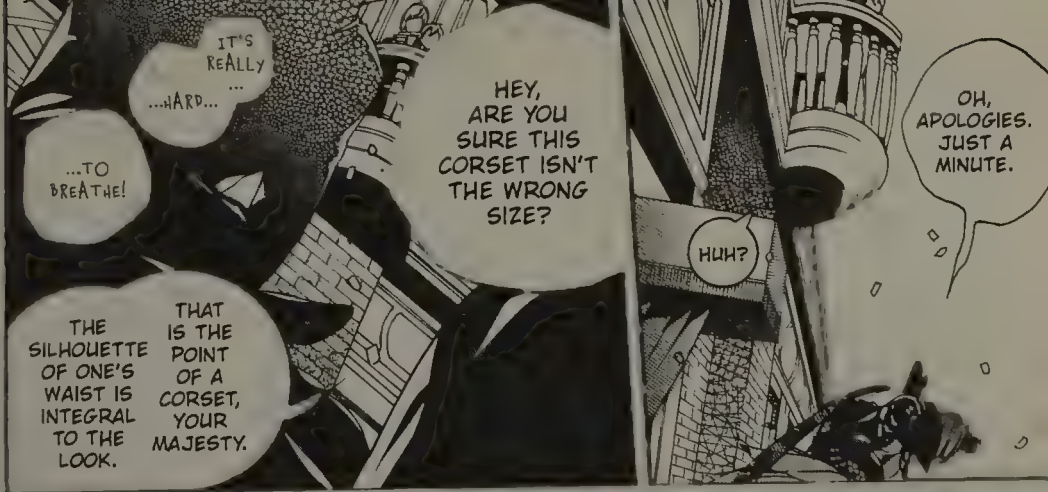
KYAAAAAAAAAH!





chapter 41

imperfect combustion.



IT'S REALLY
...HARD...

...TO
BREATHE!

HEY,
ARE YOU
SURE THIS
CORSET ISN'T
THE WRONG
SIZE?

HUH?

OH,
APOLOGIES.
JUST A
MINUTE.

THE
SILHOUETTE
OF ONE'S
WAIST IS
INTEGRAL
TO THE
LOOK.

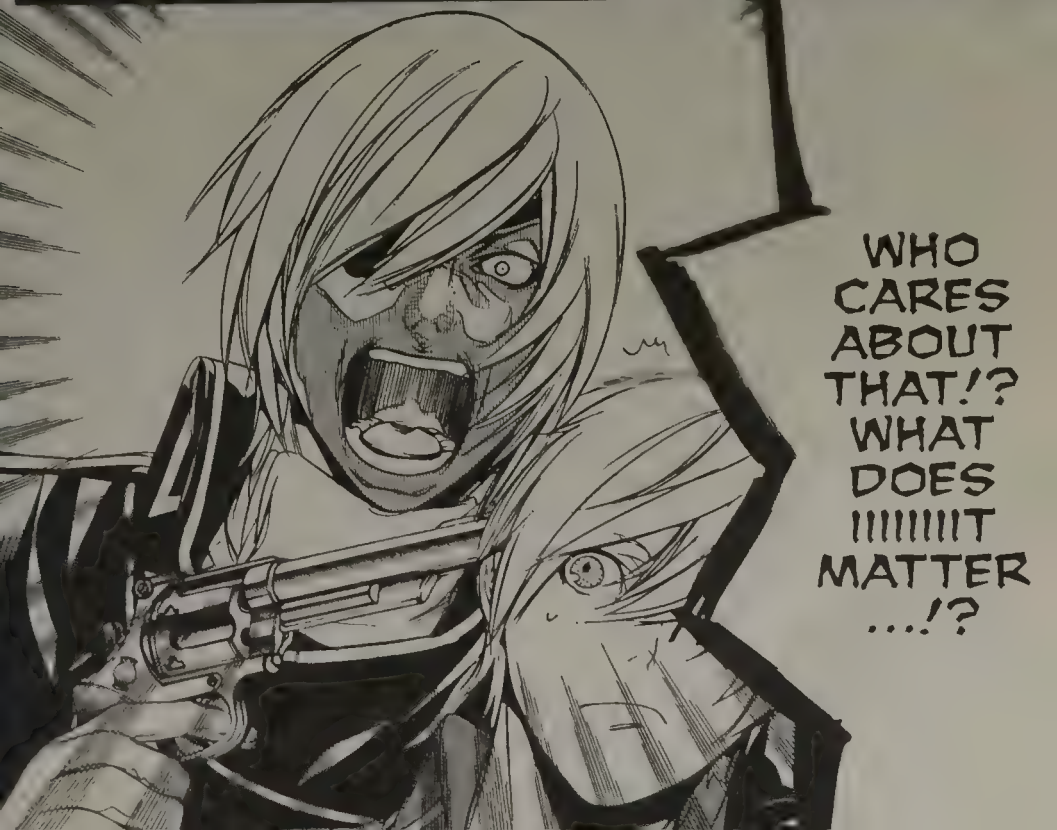
THAT
IS THE
POINT
OF A
CORSET,
YOUR
MAJESTY.



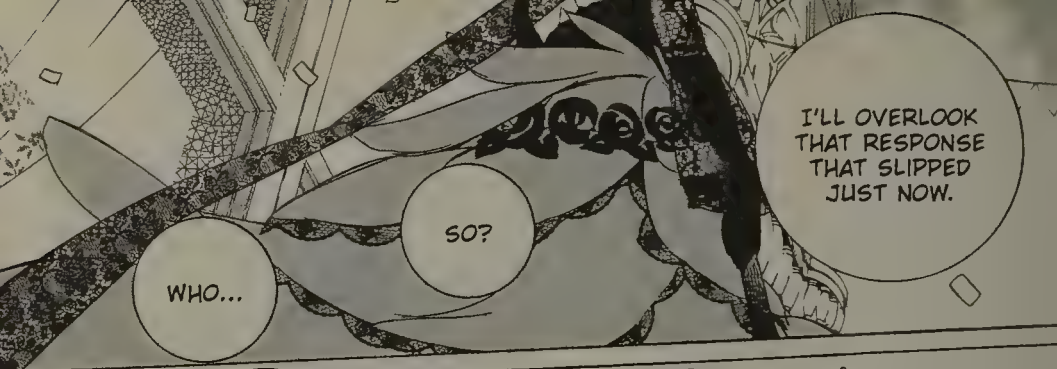
THEN
I SUPPOSE
IT CAN'T BE
HELPED.

I SEE.

THE
SILHOUETTE,
HM?



WHO
CARES
ABOUT
THAT!?!
WHAT
DOES
!!!!!!
MATTER
....!?



WHO...

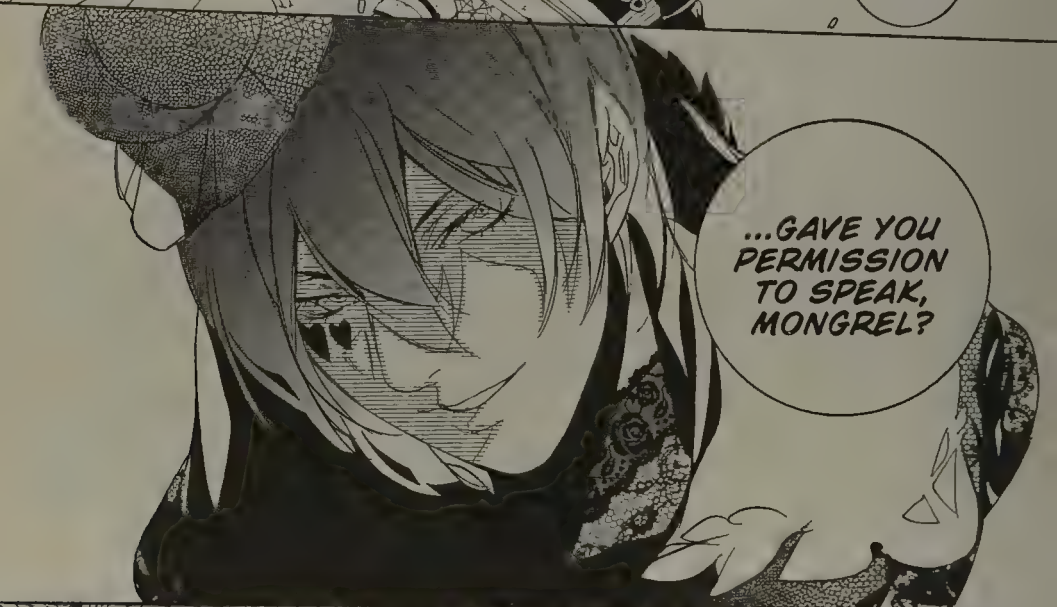
SO?

I'LL OVERLOOK
THAT RESPONSE
THAT SLIPPED
JUST NOW.

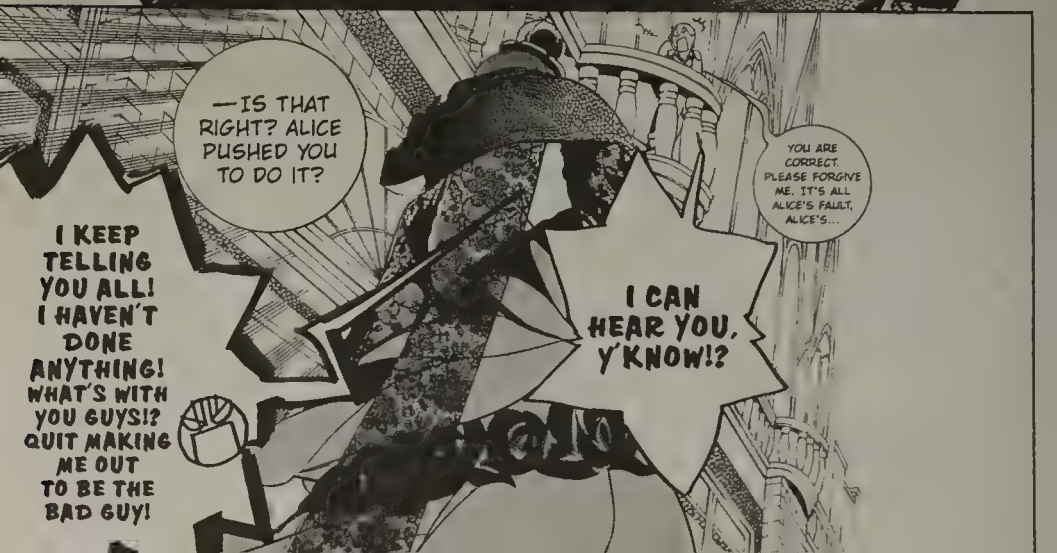


...THE...

...HELL...



...GAVE YOU
PERMISSION
TO SPEAK,
MONGREL?

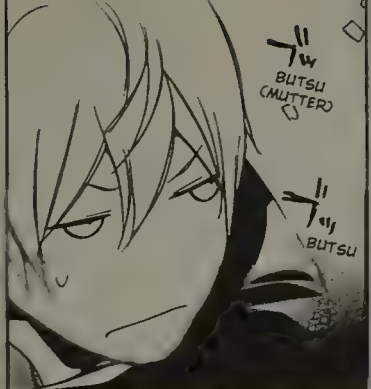


—IS THAT
RIGHT? ALICE
PUSHED YOU
TO DO IT?

YOU ARE
CORRECT.
PLEASE FORGIVE
ME. IT'S ALL
ALICE'S FAULT,
ALICE'S...

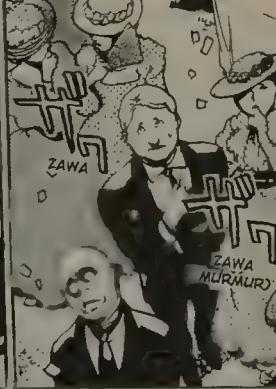
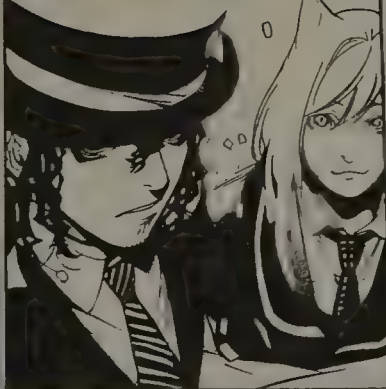
I KEEP
TELLING
YOU ALL!
I HAVEN'T
DONE
ANYTHING!
WHAT'S WITH
YOU GUYS!?
QUIT MAKING
ME OUT
TO BE THE
BAD GUY!

I CAN
HEAR YOU,
Y'KNOW!?



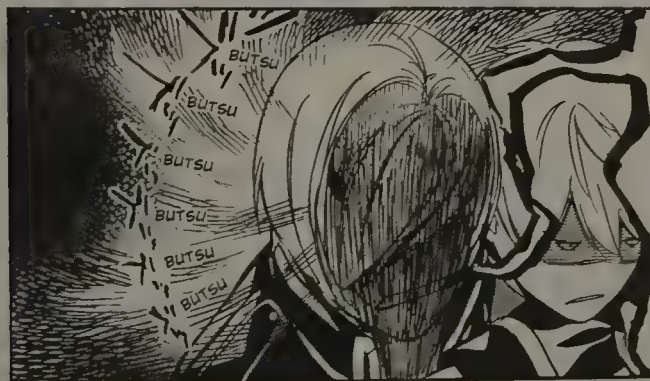
BUTSU
(MUTTER)

BUTSU



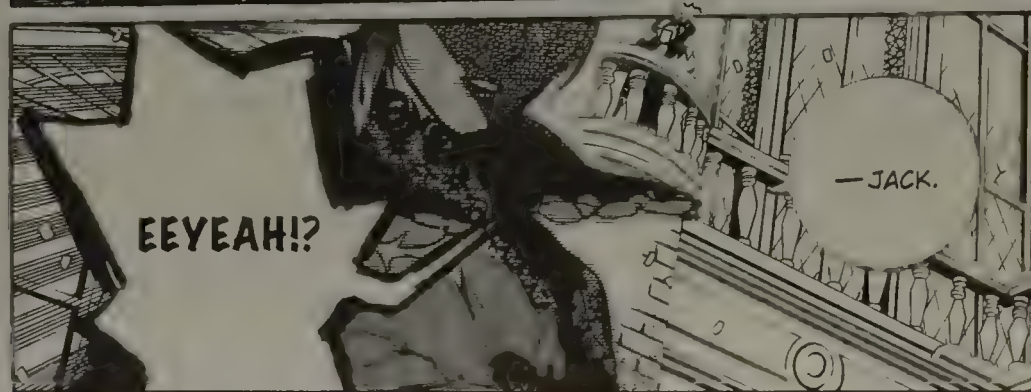
ZAWA

ZAWA
MURMURS



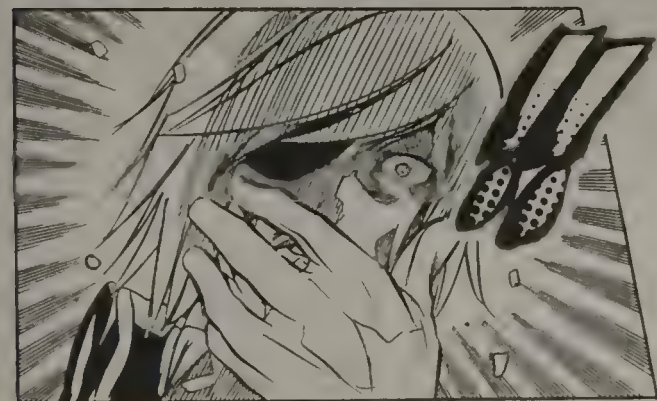
BUTSU
BUTSU
BUTSU
BUTSU
BUTSU
BUTSU

AUGH! GEEZ!
HOW COME WHENEVER
THE TIME COMES FOR ME
TO DO SOMETHING COOL,
SOMEONE GETS IN THE
WAY, HUH!? IS IT MY
FATE OR SOMETHING!?
NO, THAT CAN'T BE IT!
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE I
SET FOOT IN WONDERLAND
AND BECAUSE I HAD
TO BECOME THE JACK
OF HEARTS...



EEYEAH!?

— JACK.



FIFTY
WORDS.

SOWWEE!

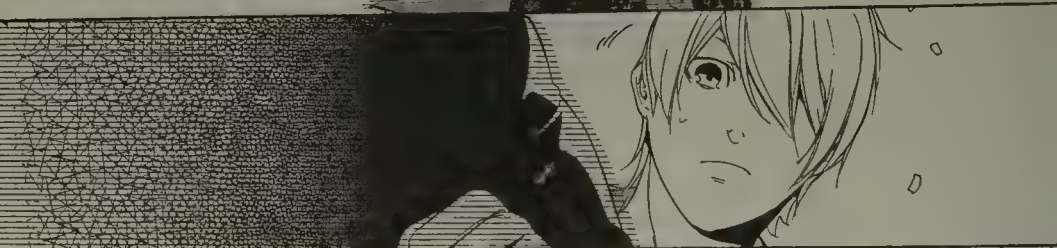




...I WILL
HAVE YOU PUT
AN END TO
THIS ASININE
CONTRACT!

RIGHT
HERE,
RIGHT
NOW...

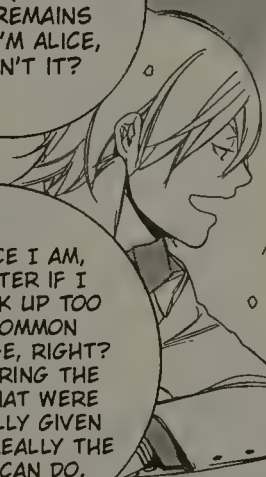
...FED UP
ALREADY.



YOU ARE NOTHING
LIKE THE OTHER
BEAUTIFUL CARDS,
SERVING AT MY
SIDE, THINKING ONLY
OF ME, LOYALLY
OBEYING ALL OF
MY ORDERS.

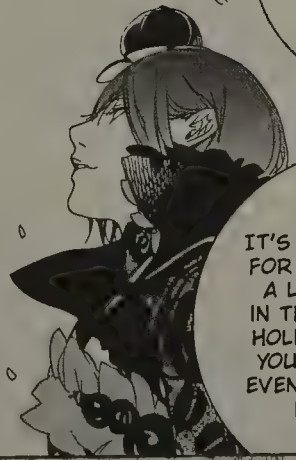
...IT'S
TRUE...

FROM THE START,
YOU WERE A
NORMAL HUMAN,
WHO NEVER
SHOULD'VE COME
TO WONDERLAND.



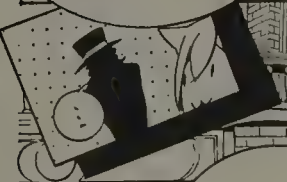
HEH. EVEN
IF I DIDN'T
KNOW, THE
FACT REMAINS
THAT I'M ALICE,
DOESN'T IT?

AND SINCE I AM,
IT'S BETTER IF I
DON'T PICK UP TOO
MUCH COMMON
KNOWLEDGE, RIGHT?
REMEMBERING THE
RULES THAT WERE
PERSONALLY GIVEN
TO ME IS REALLY THE
MOST I CAN DO.



REGARDLESS,
THE FACT
REMAINS
THAT YOU'VE
DISOBEYED
THE RULES.

IT'S UNFORGIVABLE
FOR ALICE TO TAKE
A LEADING ROLE
IN THE ALICE FIXED
HOLIDAY. OR WERE
YOU UNAWARE OF
EVEN THE CITIZENS'
HOLIDAYS?



THE ONE
WHO WANTS
TO ADDRESS
YOU IS THE
JACK OF
HEARTS.

NO, LIKE I
KEEP SAYING,
THIS ISN'T
ABOUT ME.

I SHALL
CONSIDER YOUR
DEMANDS.
WHAT IS IT YOU
WISH FOR?

HEH...
A COCKY
ALICE AS
EVER.



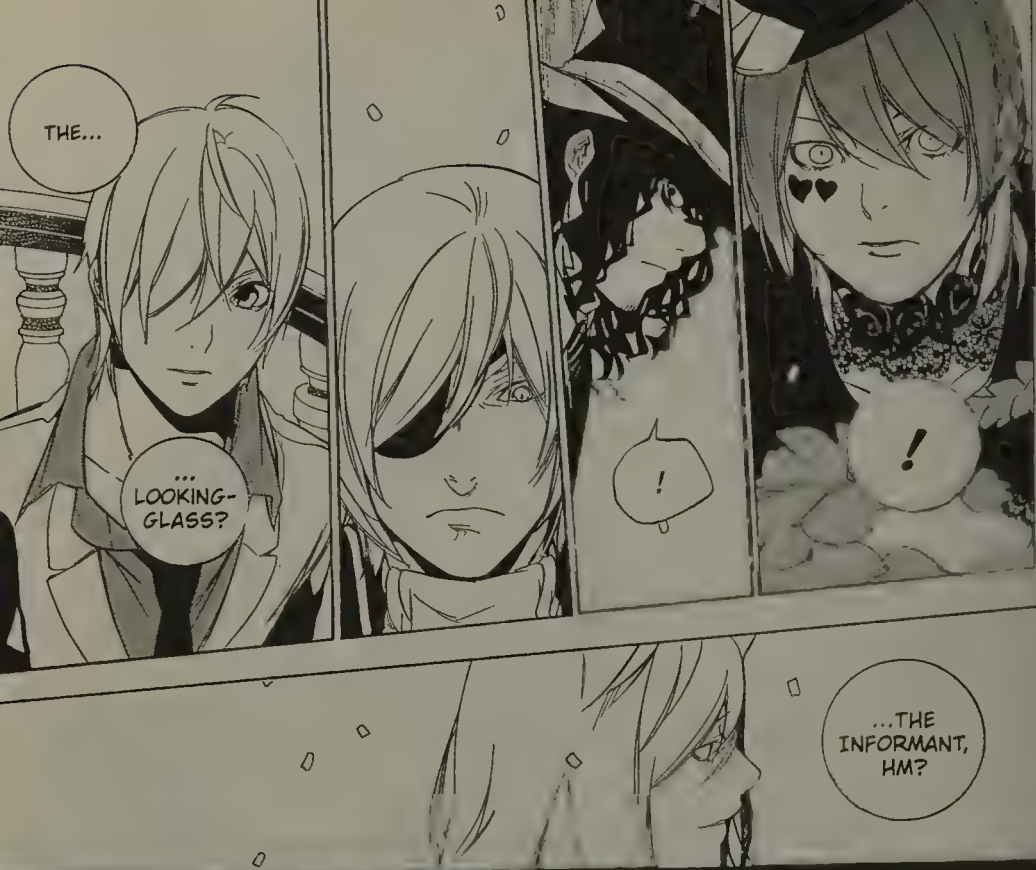
SPEAK.



—JACK.



HE
WANTS
YOU TO
FIRE
HIM.



THE...

...
LOOKING-
GLASS?

!

!

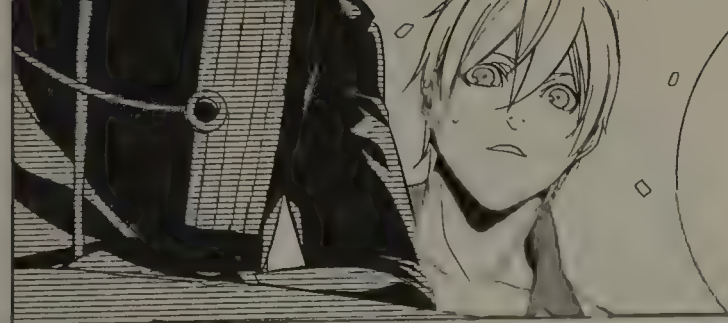
...THE
INFORMANT,
HM?



BUT I'M THE
CAUTIOUS
TYPE, SO...
BEGGIN' YOUR
PARDON.

BOTA
(DRIP)

BOTA

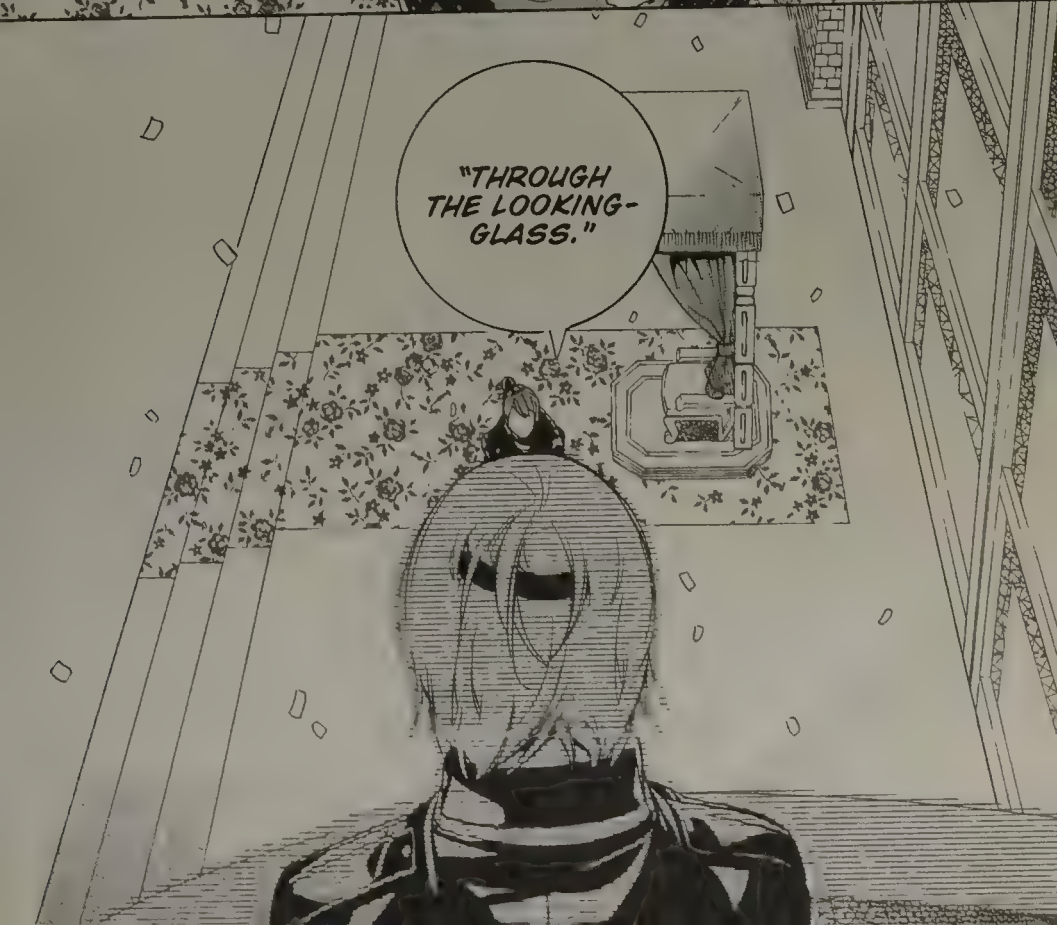


IT'S
REGRETTABLE
THAT THE
WHITE RABBIT
"MISTAKENLY"
BROUGHT
YOU HERE.

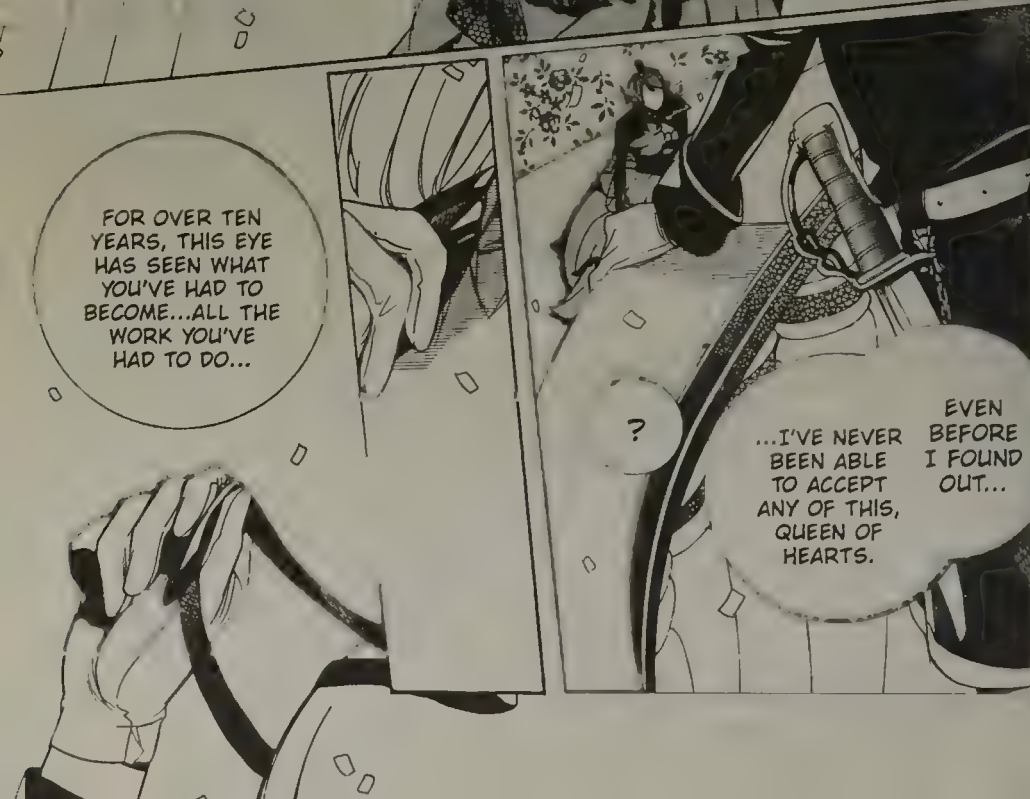
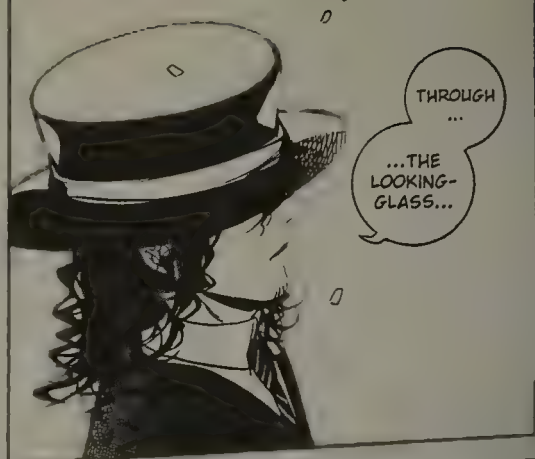
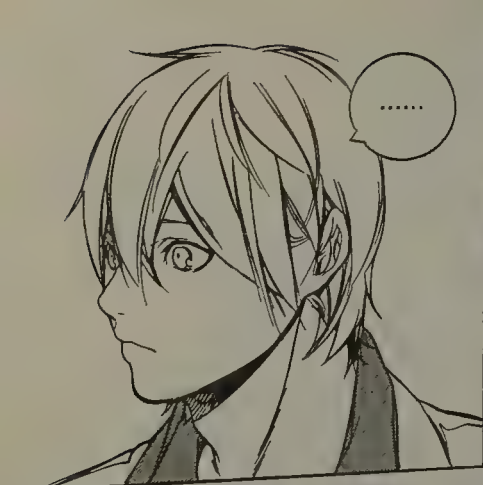


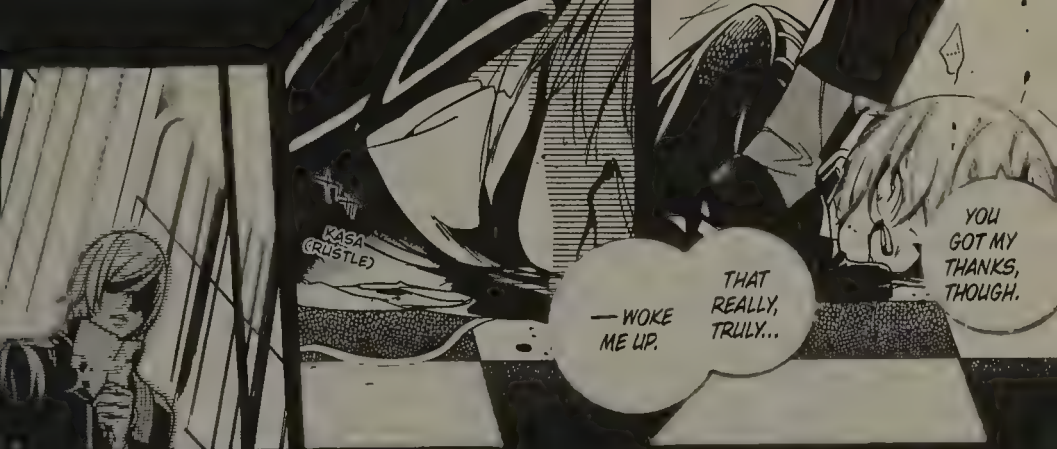
ONCE A NAME HAS
BEEN DISCARDED,
THERE IS NO KNOWN
WAY TO RETRIEVE
IT—

HOWEVER, THE
WHITE RABBIT
THREW AWAY THE
JACK OF HEARTS'
TRUE NAME.



"THROUGH
THE LOOKING-
GLASS."





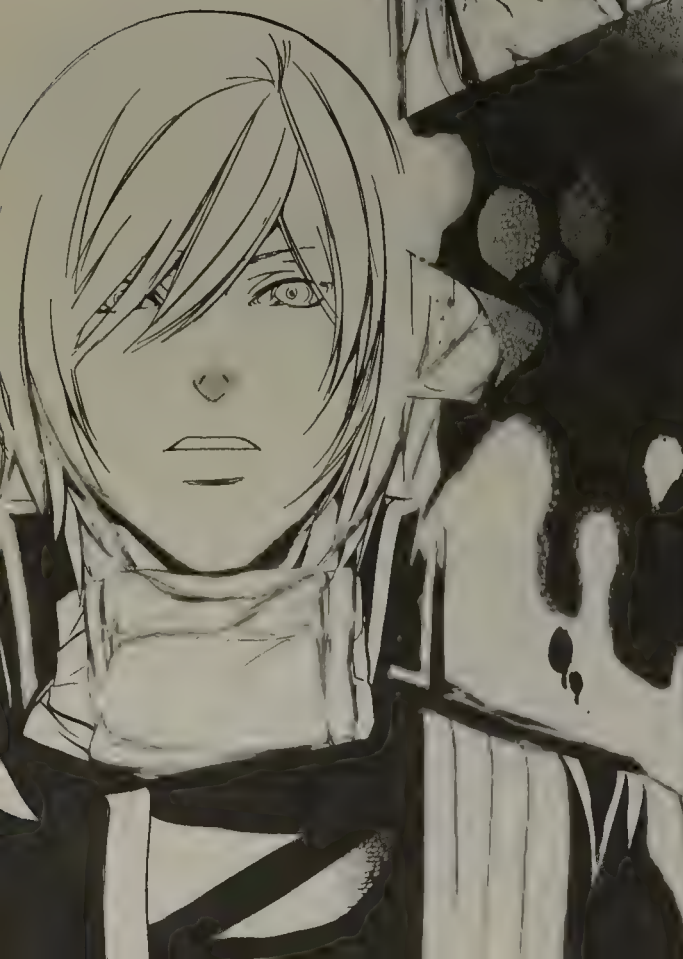
Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There

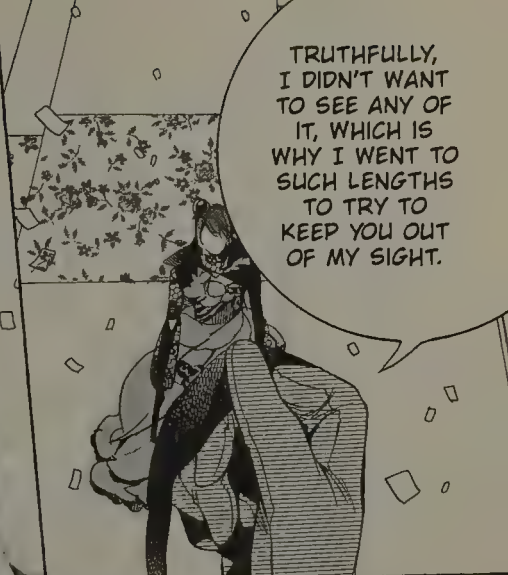
THROW AWAY YOUR NAME AND
REGRETS THROUGH THE...

NEW NAME ISSUER.
REISSUER.

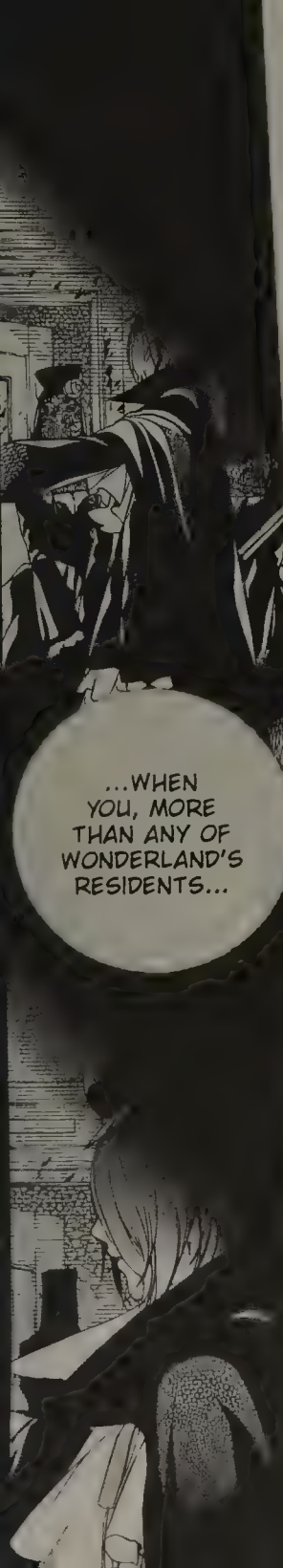
Tweedle

...ARE
STAINED
RED WITH
BLOOD.

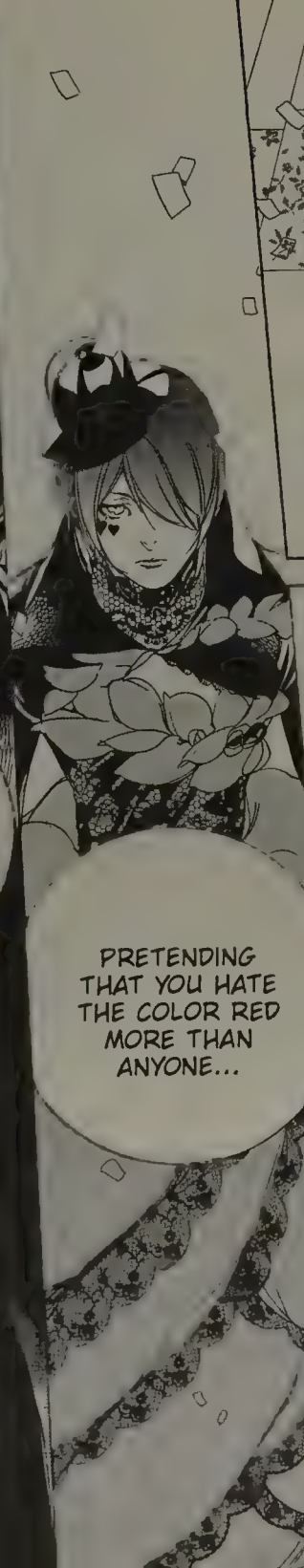




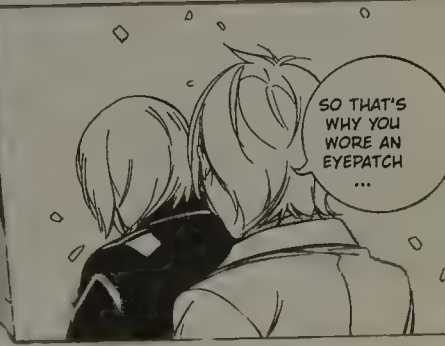
TRUTHFULLY,
I DIDN'T WANT
TO SEE ANY OF
IT, WHICH IS
WHY I WENT TO
SUCH LENGTHS
TO TRY TO
KEEP YOU OUT
OF MY SIGHT.



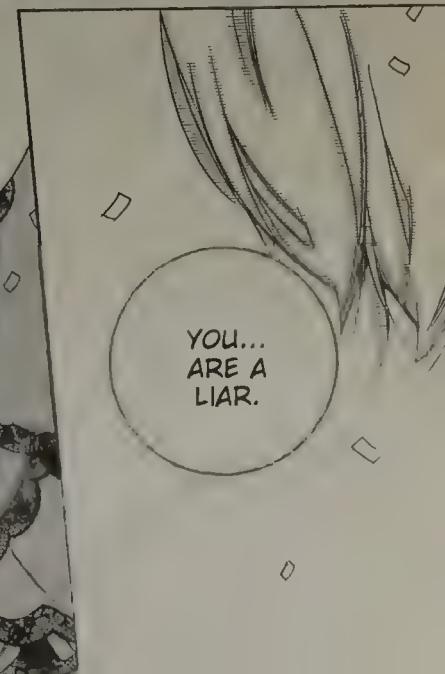
...WHEN
YOU, MORE
THAN ANY OF
WONDERLAND'S
RESIDENTS...



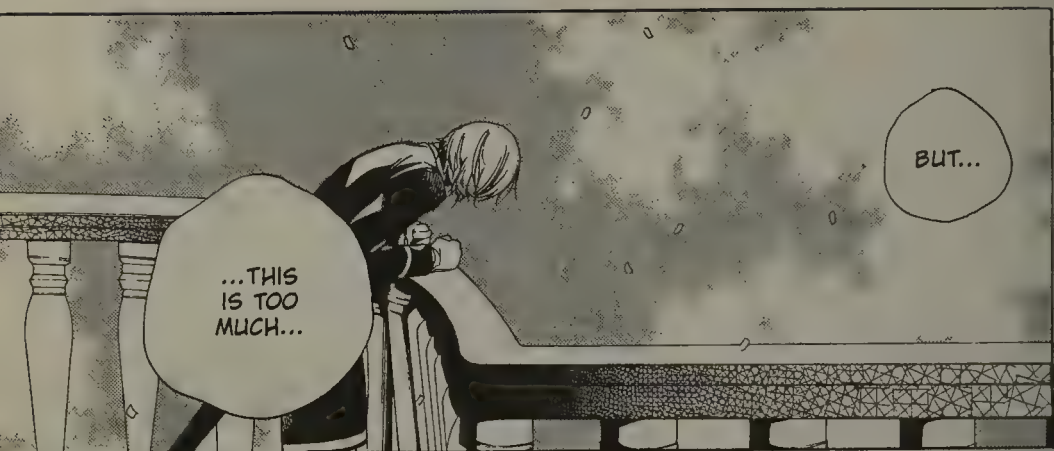
PRETENDING
THAT YOU HATE
THE COLOR RED
MORE THAN
ANYONE...



SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
WORE AN
EYEPATCH
...

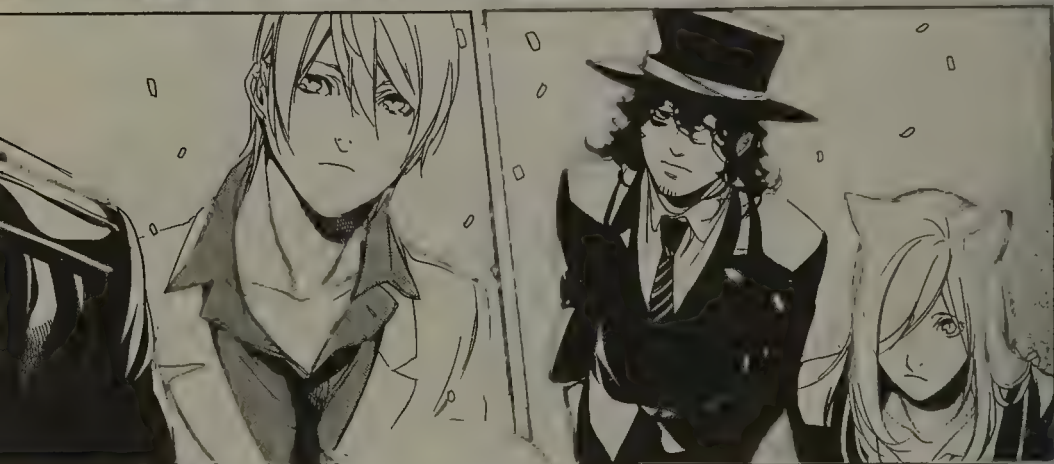


YOU...
ARE A
LIAR.

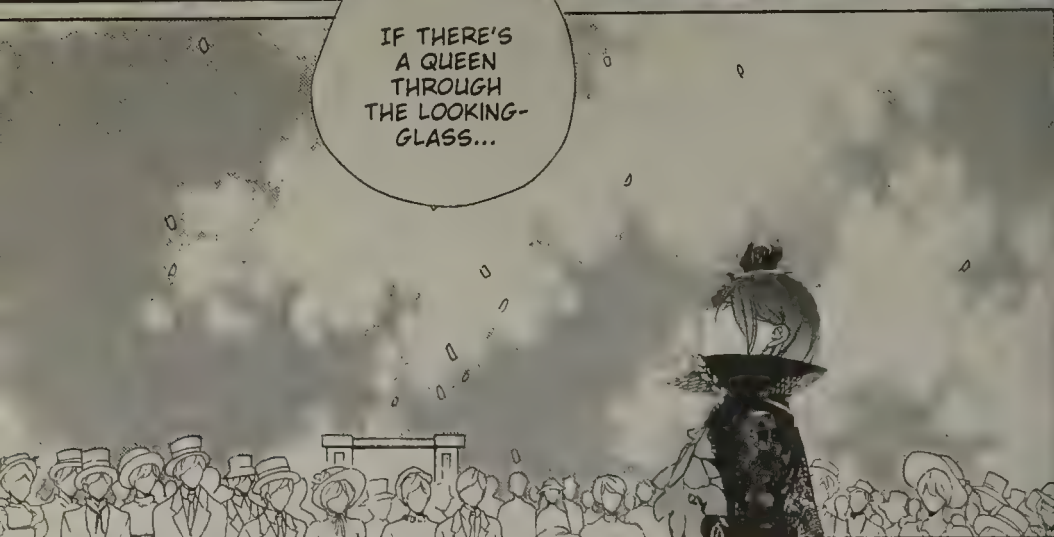


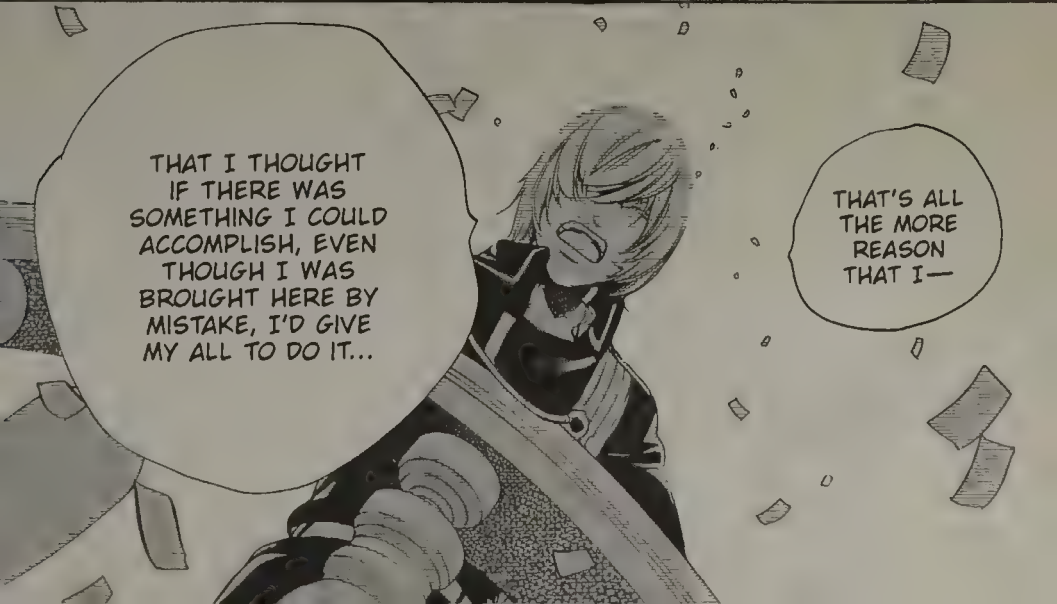
...THIS
IS TOO
MUCH...

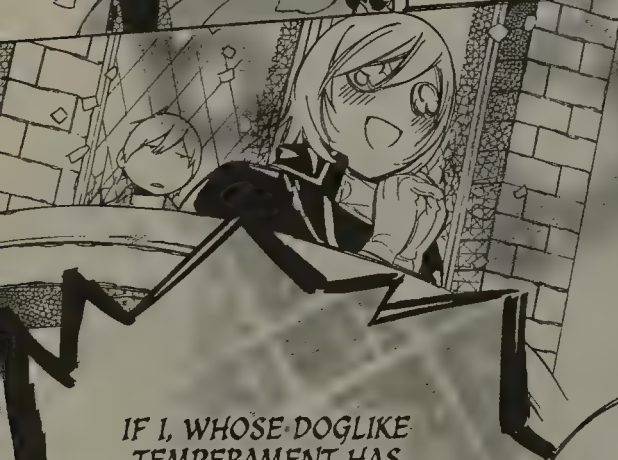
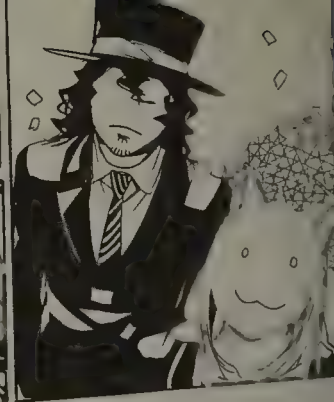
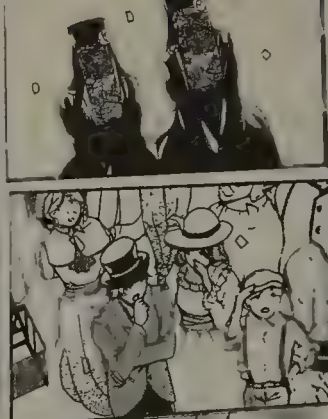
BUT...



IF THERE'S
A QUEEN
THROUGH
THE LOOKING-
GLASS...







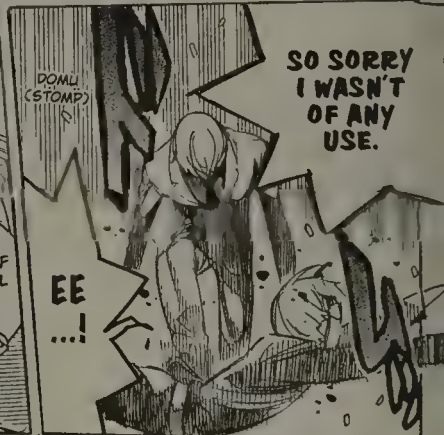
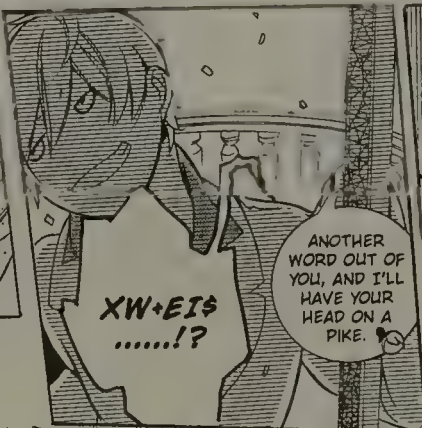
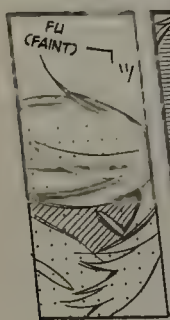
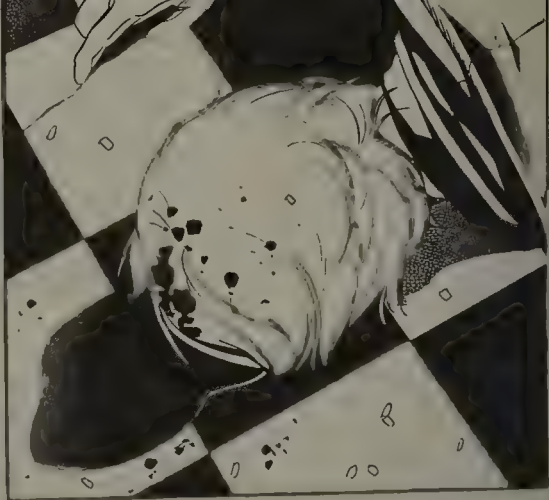
I'M SURE THAT THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS, THERE'S A CUTE FEMALE QUEEN WHO'S TOTALLY MY TYPE AND WHO, DESPITE HER RESERVED PERSONALITY, GOES OUT ON HER TERRACE AND LOOKS UP AT THE MULTITUDE OF STARS IN THE NIGHT SKY, WISHING WITH TEARS IN HER EYES THAT ONE DAY A LOYAL MANSERVANT WOULD APPEAR AT HER SIDE.

IF I, WHOSE DOGLIKE TEMPERAMENT HAS BEEN WORSENERD BY THE QUEEN OF HEARTS' EXCESSIVE DISCIPLINE, TURNING ME INTO THE ULTIMATE SUPER-MASOCHIST, GO THERE, I CAN TRANSFORM INTO SUPER-JACK AND RULE AT THE SIDE OF THIS ADORABLE CREATURE...





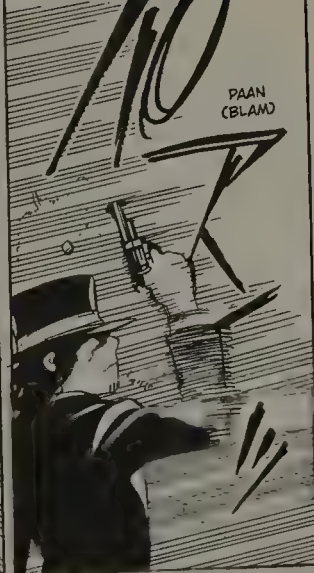
**...WHY
WON'T
YOOOU
SEND
MEEEE
THERE
...!
...!**





GON
(DONG)

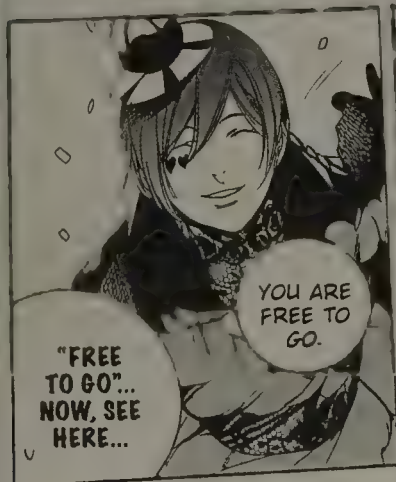
GYAEEK!



PAAN
(BLAM)

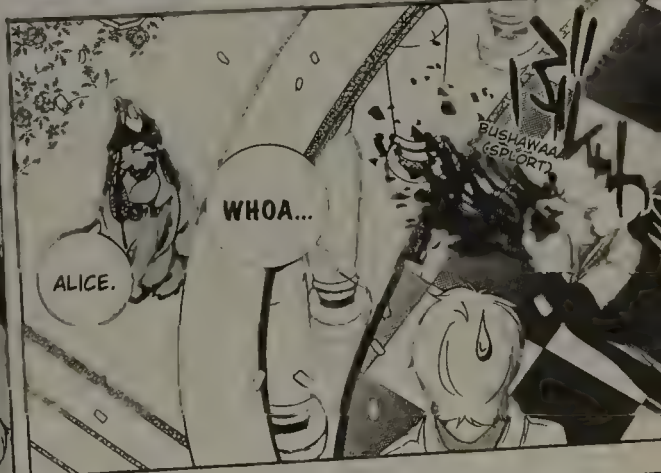


FIRE.



"FREE
TO GO"...
NOW, SEE
HERE...

YOU ARE
FREE TO
GO.



ALICE.

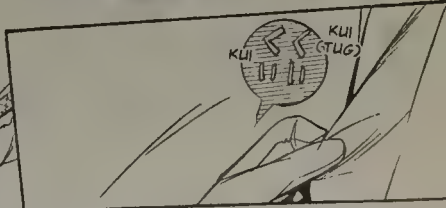
WHOA...

BUSHAWAA
(SPLOOT)

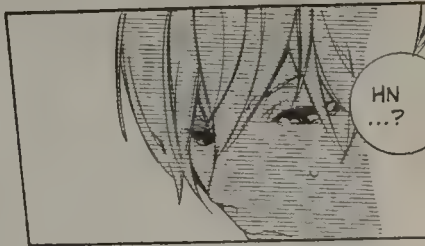
"I DON'T NEED
YOU ANYMORE,
USELESS ALICE.
HURRY UP
AND GO HOME,
STUUUUPID.

"P.S.
←THESE ARE
THE KEYS TO
THE CUFFS."

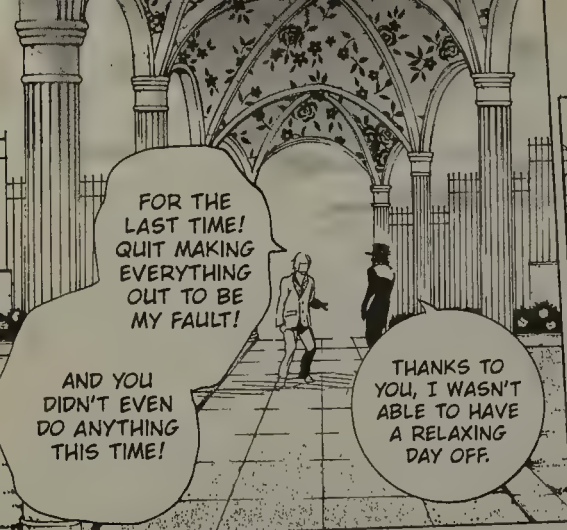
THESE ARE THE KEYS TO THE CUFFS



KUI
(TUG)



HN
...?



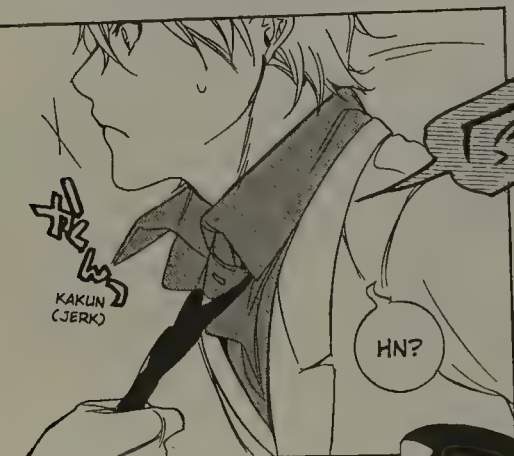
FOR THE
LAST TIME!
QUIT MAKING
EVERYTHING
OUT TO BE
MY FAULT!

AND YOU
DIDN'T EVEN
DO ANYTHING
THIS TIME!

THANKS TO
YOU, I WASN'T
ABLE TO HAVE
A RELAXING
DAY OFF.

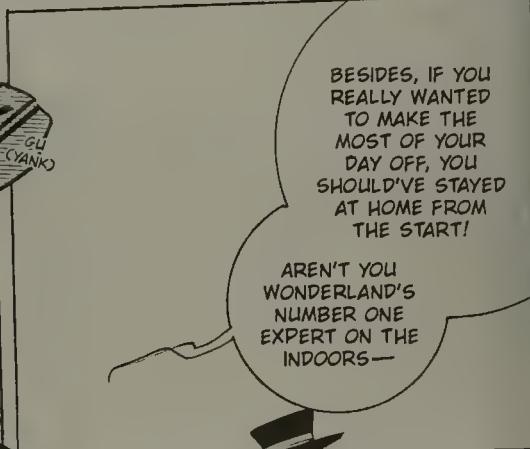


THAT'S
WHAT I
SHOULD BE
SAYING.



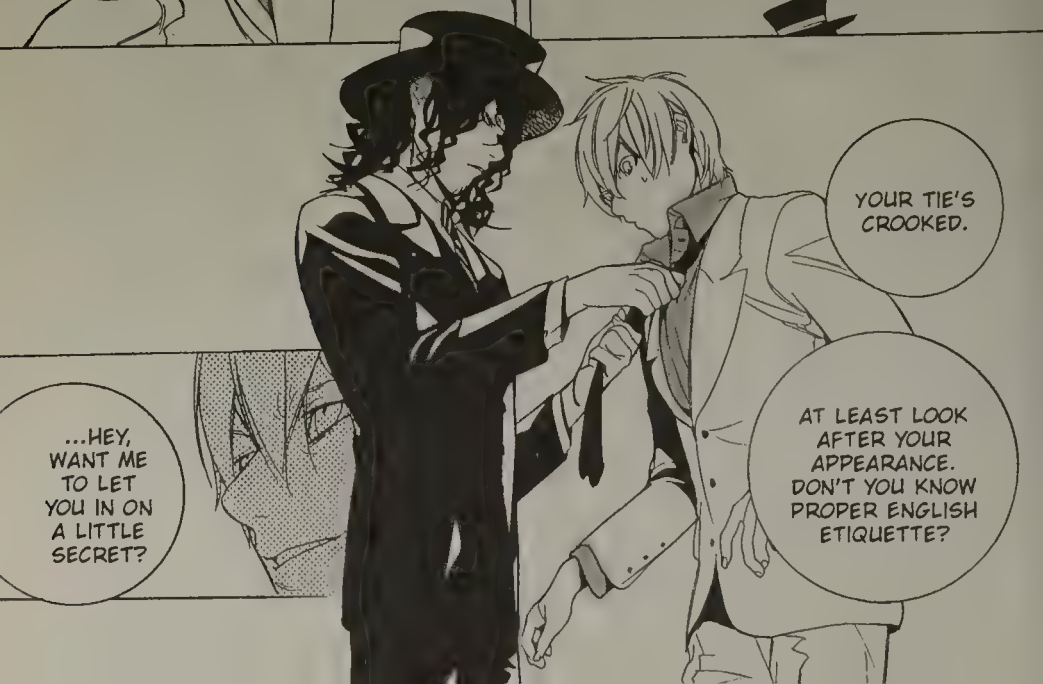
KAKUN
(JERK)

HN?



BESIDES, IF YOU
REALLY WANTED
TO MAKE THE
MOST OF YOUR
DAY OFF, YOU
SHOULD'VE STAYED
AT HOME FROM
THE START!

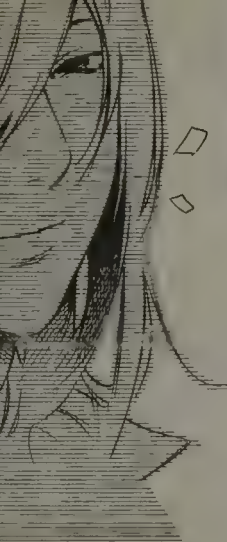
AREN'T YOU
WONDERLAND'S
NUMBER ONE
EXPERT ON THE
INDOORS—



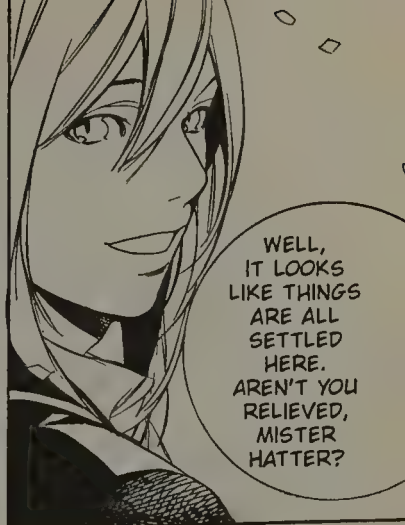
YOUR TIE'S
CROOKED.

...HEY,
WANT ME
TO LET
YOU IN ON
A LITTLE
SECRET?

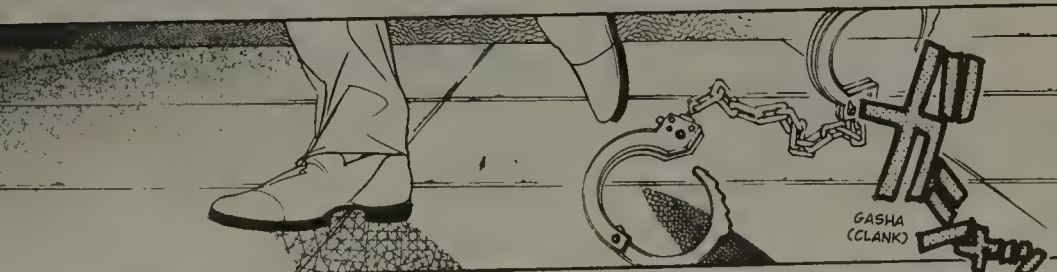
AT LEAST LOOK
AFTER YOUR
APPEARANCE.
DON'T YOU KNOW
PROPER ENGLISH
ETIQUETTE?



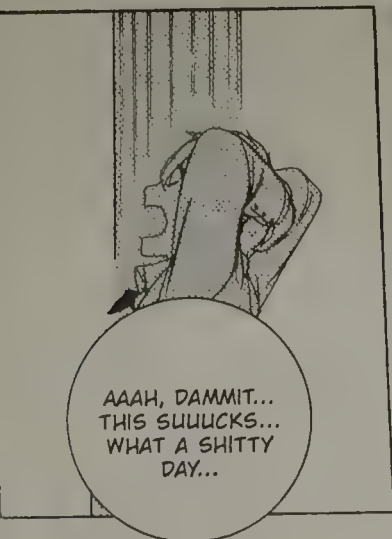
...OH?



WELL,
IT LOOKS
LIKE THINGS
ARE ALL
SETTLED
HERE.
AREN'T YOU
RELIEVED,
MISTER
HATTER?



GASHA
(CLANK)



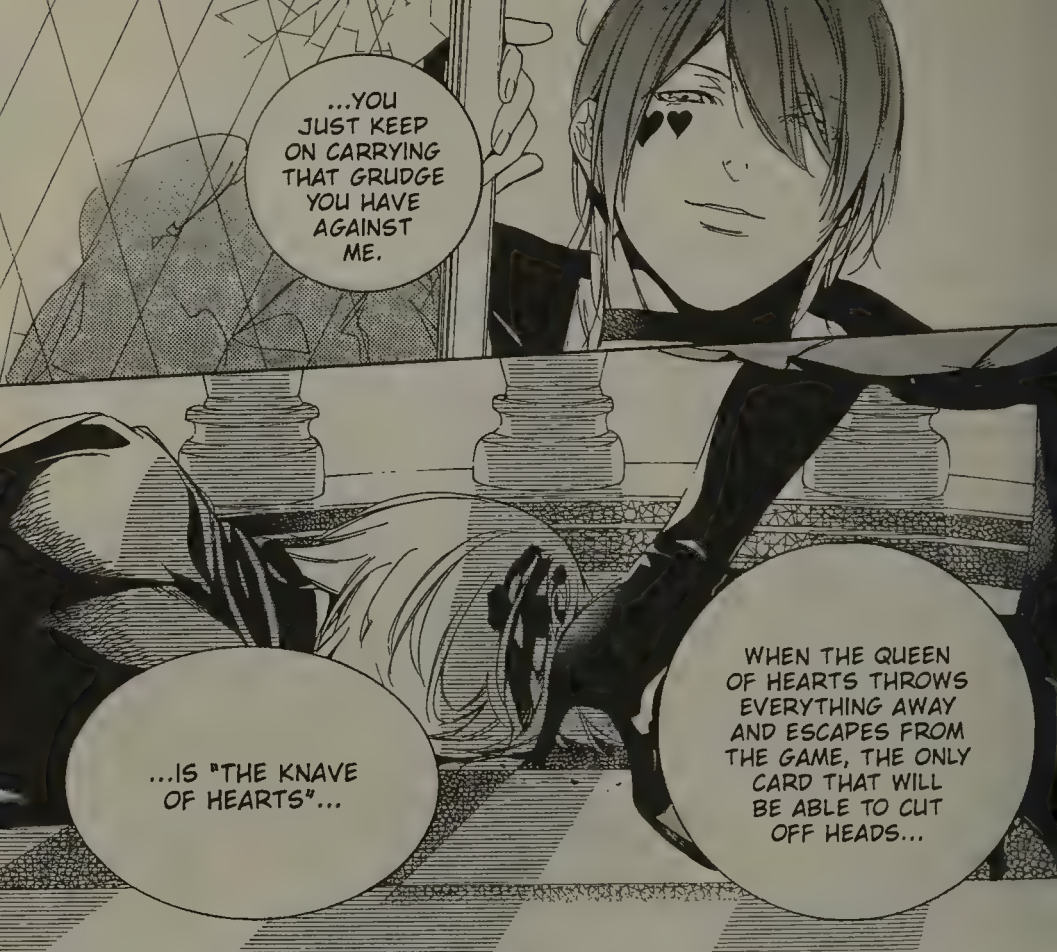
AAAAH, DAMMIT...
THIS SUUUUCKS...
WHAT A SHITTY
DAY...



SHEESH.
WHAT THE
HELL!?

HAS THERE
EVER BEEN
SUCH AN
ILL-TREATED
VICTIM!?

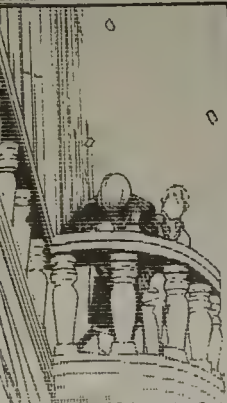
NO ONE
COMES TO
CHECK ON THE
RELEASED
HOSTAGE?



...YOU
JUST KEEP
ON CARRYING
THAT GRUDGE
YOU HAVE
AGAINST
ME.

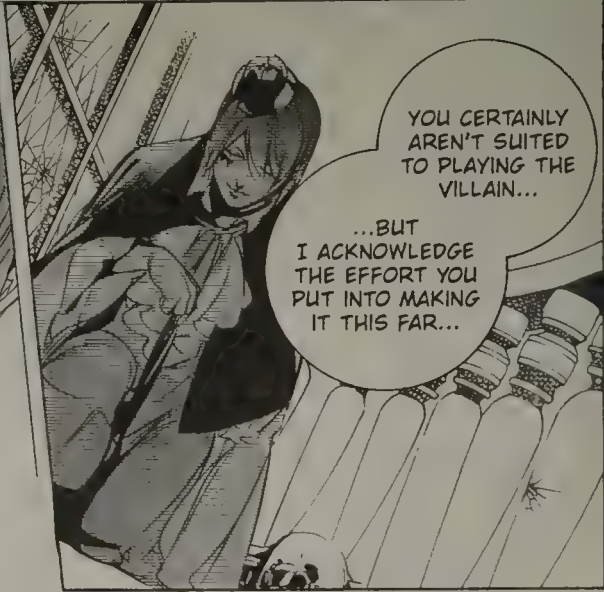
...IS "THE KNAVE
OF HEARTS"...

WHEN THE QUEEN
OF HEARTS THROWS
EVERYTHING AWAY
AND ESCAPES FROM
THE GAME, THE ONLY
CARD THAT WILL
BE ABLE TO CUT
OFF HEADS...



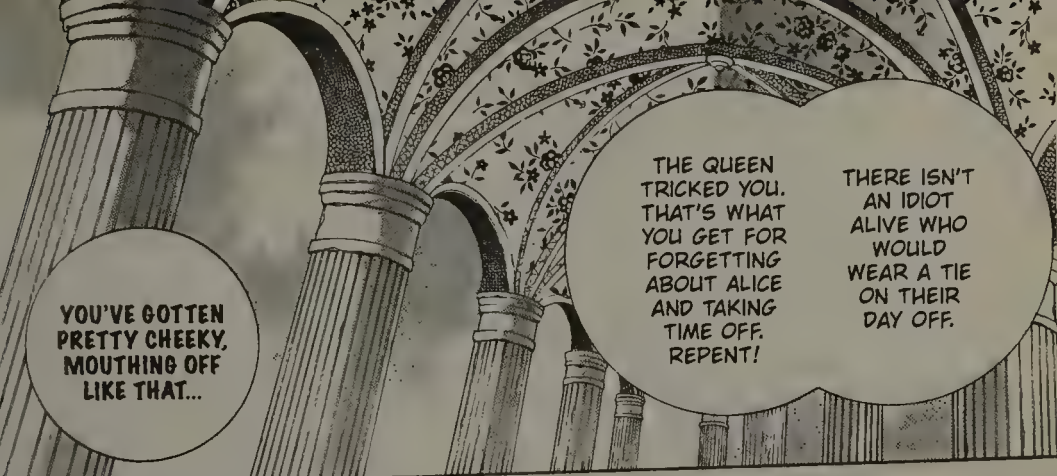
PRETENDING
THAT YOU HATE THE
COLOR RED MORE
THAN ANYONE...
WHEN YOU, MORE
THAN ANY OF
WONDERLAND'S
RESIDENTS, ARE
STAINED RED
WITH BLOOD.

YOU...
ARE A
LIAR.



YOU CERTAINLY
AREN'T SUITED
TO PLAYING THE
VILLAIN...

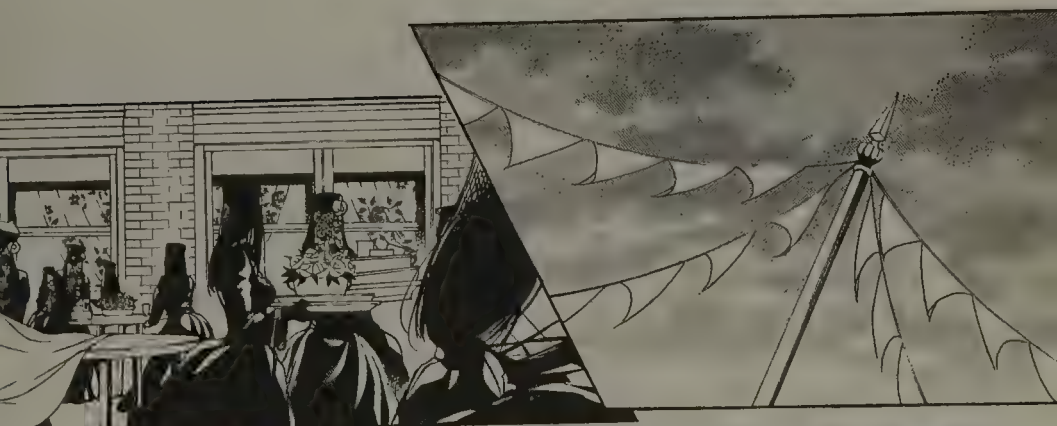
...BUT
I ACKNOWLEDGE
THE EFFORT YOU
PUT INTO MAKING
IT THIS FAR...



YOU'VE GOTTEN
PRETTY CHEEKY,
MOUTHING OFF
LIKE THAT...

THE QUEEN
TRICKED YOU.
THAT'S WHAT
YOU GET FOR
FORGETTING
ABOUT ALICE
AND TAKING
TIME OFF.
REPENT!

THERE ISN'T
AN IDIOT
ALIVE WHO
WOULD
WEAR A TIE
ON THEIR
DAY OFF.



チ
ン

CHIIIN
(DIIING)

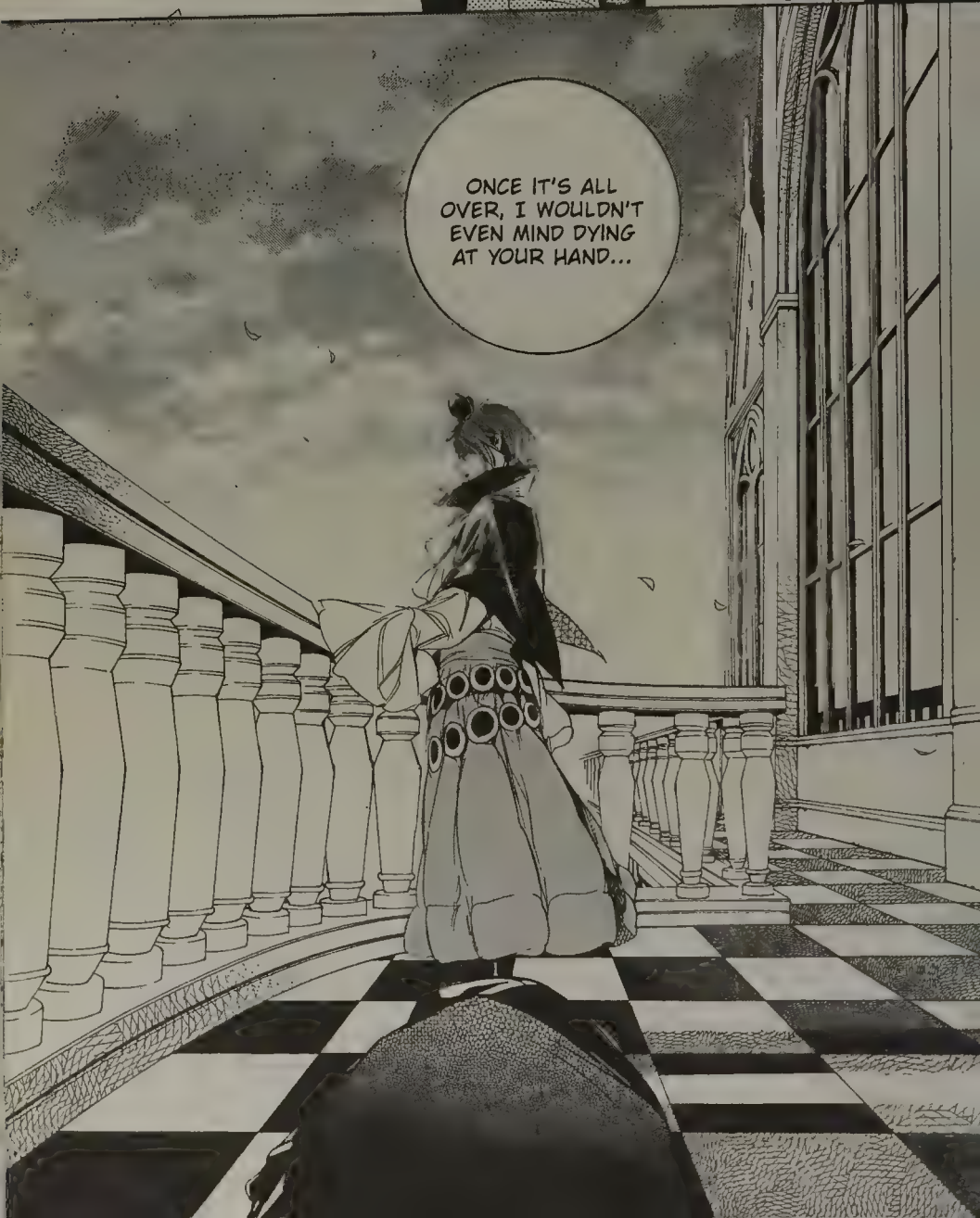
YOU
TRULY ARE
A HOPELESS
CARD.



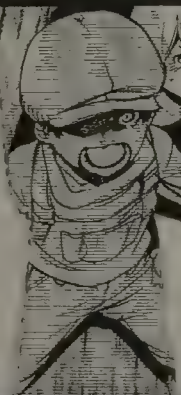
THIS TIME FOR
SURE, YOU'LL
KILL THE WHITE
RABBIT FOR US,
WON'T YOU?



ISN'T
THAT RIGHT,
ALICE?



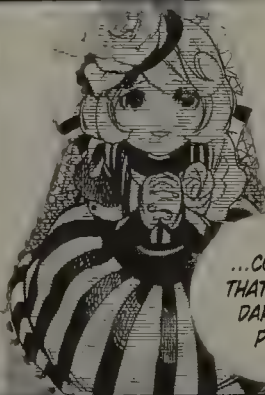
ONCE IT'S ALL
OVER, I WOULDN'T
EVEN MIND DYING
AT YOUR HAND...



I HATE
WONDERLAND!
I HATE IT!

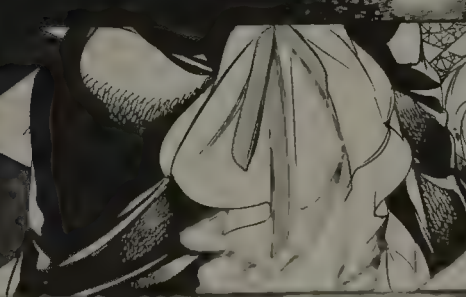
YOU
FORCED
YOUR
DUMB
RULES
ON HER!

QUIT
MESSING
AROUND!!!



.....
CAN
YOU...

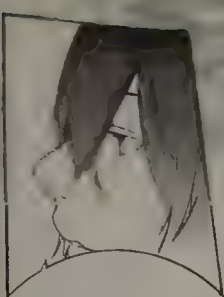
...CONVEY
THAT TO MY
DARLING
PET?



...THERE
ARE TIMES
I WANT
TO RUN
AWAY...

INDEED
...

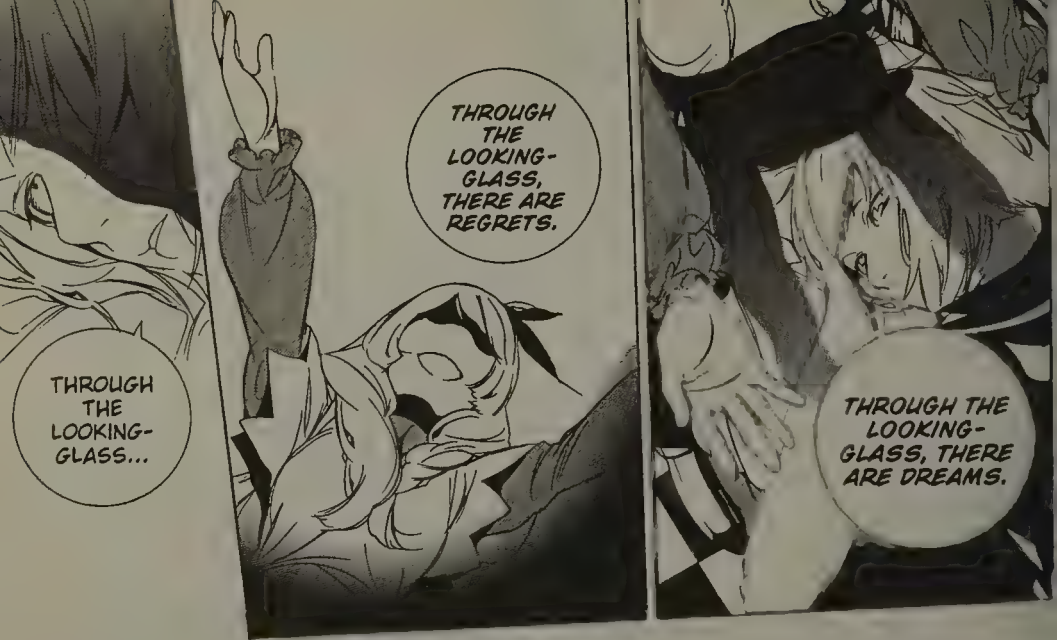
SAA
(WHOOOSH)



I'M NOT THE ONE
WHO PROPELS
WONDERLAND
FORWARD.

WITH MY POWERS,
I CAN NEITHER MOVE
THE STORY ALONG,
NOR STOP IT.

BUT EVEN
WITHOUT MY
FRETTING OVER
IT, THE GAME
TO KILL THE
WHITE RABBIT
WILL BE OVER
SOON ENOUGH.



THROUGH
THE
LOOKING-
GLASS,
THERE ARE
REGRETS.

THROUGH
THE
LOOKING-
GLASS...

THROUGH THE
LOOKING-
GLASS, THERE
ARE DREAMS.

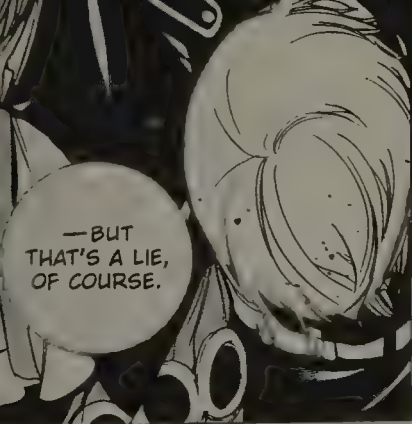


THROUGH
THE LOOKING-
GLASS, HMM
...?

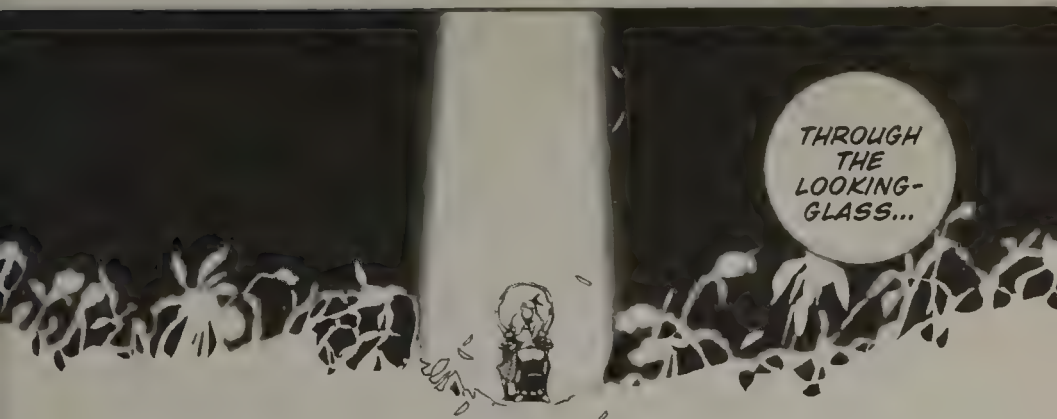
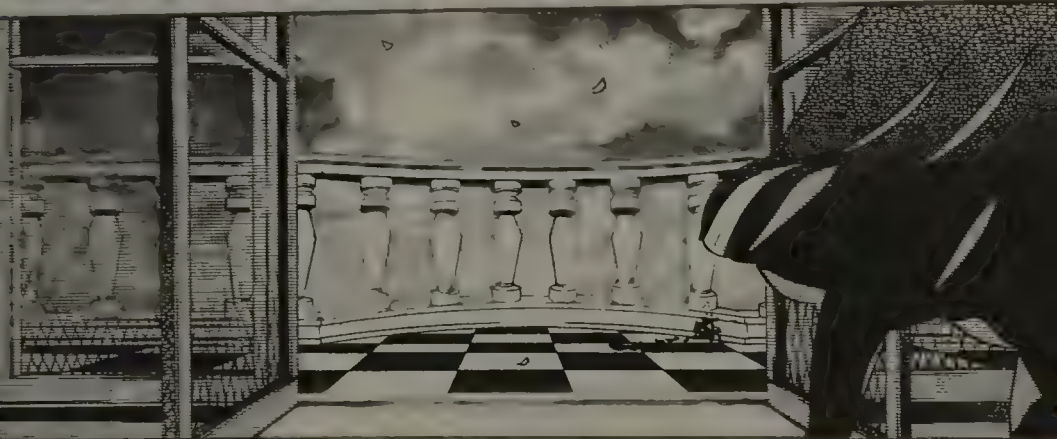
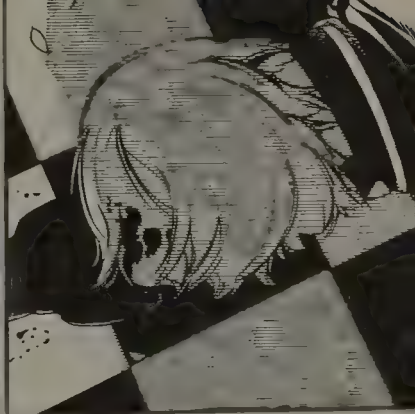
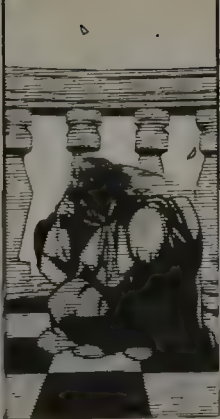
...IT'S
NOTHING.

NO.

HN?
DID YOU SAY
SOMETHING?



—BUT
THAT'S A LIE,
OF COURSE.

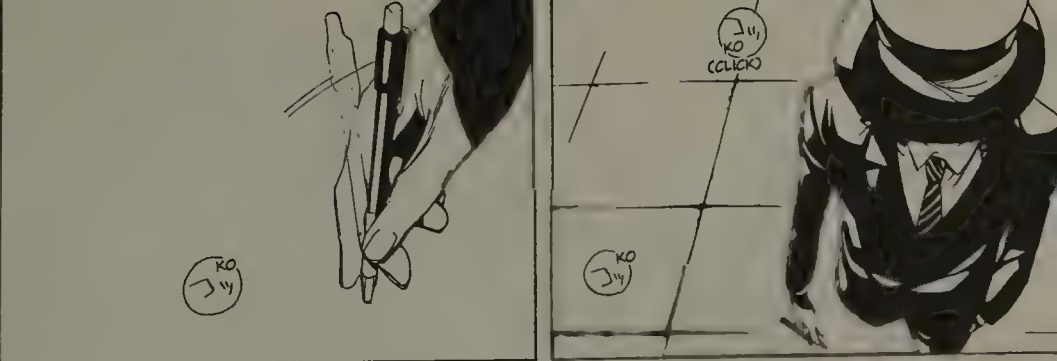


THROUGH
THE
LOOKING-
GLASS...

YOUR STORY IS REALLY BORING.

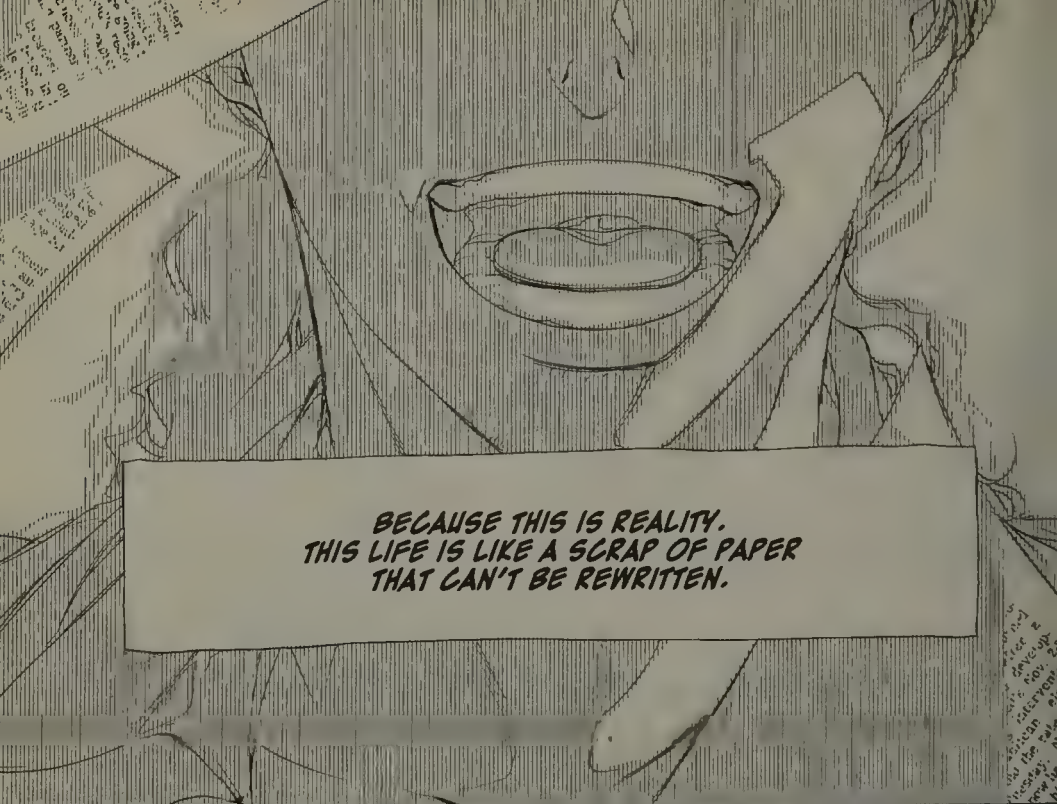
Chapter 42





Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There



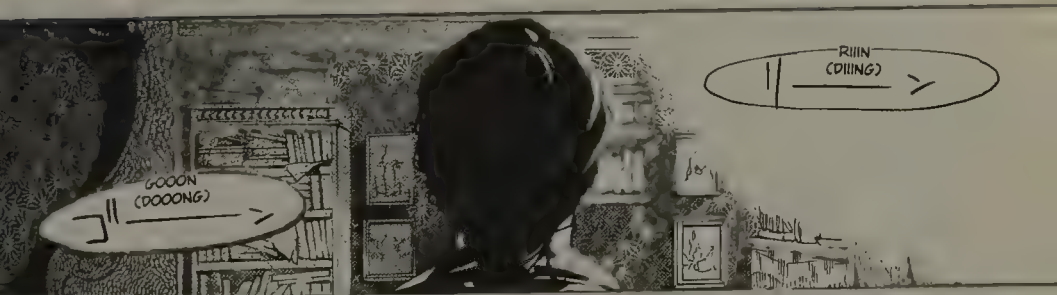


**BECAUSE THIS IS REALITY.
THIS LIFE IS LIKE A SCRAP OF PAPER
THAT CAN'T BE REWRITTEN.**



**HEY.
IF THAT'S THE CASE,
THEN SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME.
WHAT EXACTLY IS THERE FOR ME TO PROTECT?
WHY DID I EVER THINK I COULD GRANT
ALICE THE HAPPINESS THAT I COULD
NEVER ACHIEVE FOR MYSELF?**

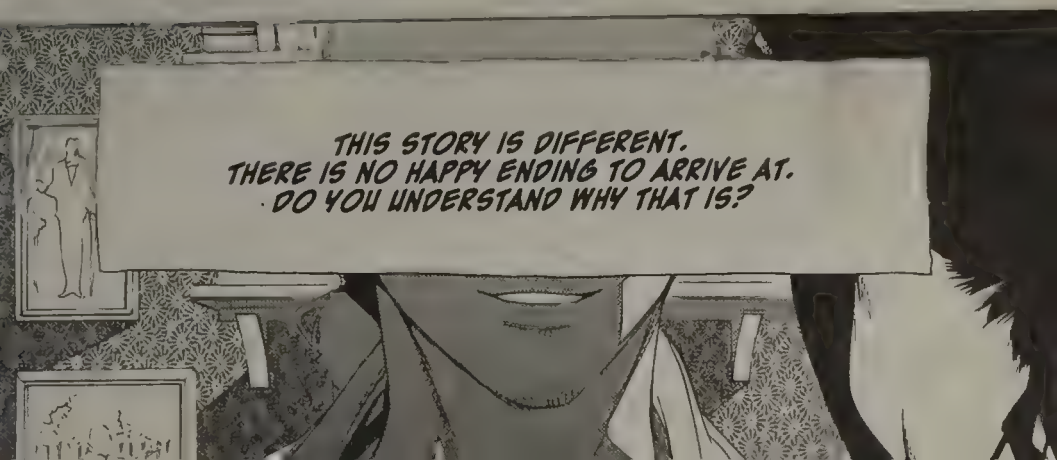
PROTECT ALICE?
ME?
DON'T BE ABSURD.
IF THINGS COULD BE SOLVED WITH
SUCH AN EASY DECLARATION,
THERE'D BE NO NEED FOR SOMETHING
LIKE A "STORY," WOULD THERE?



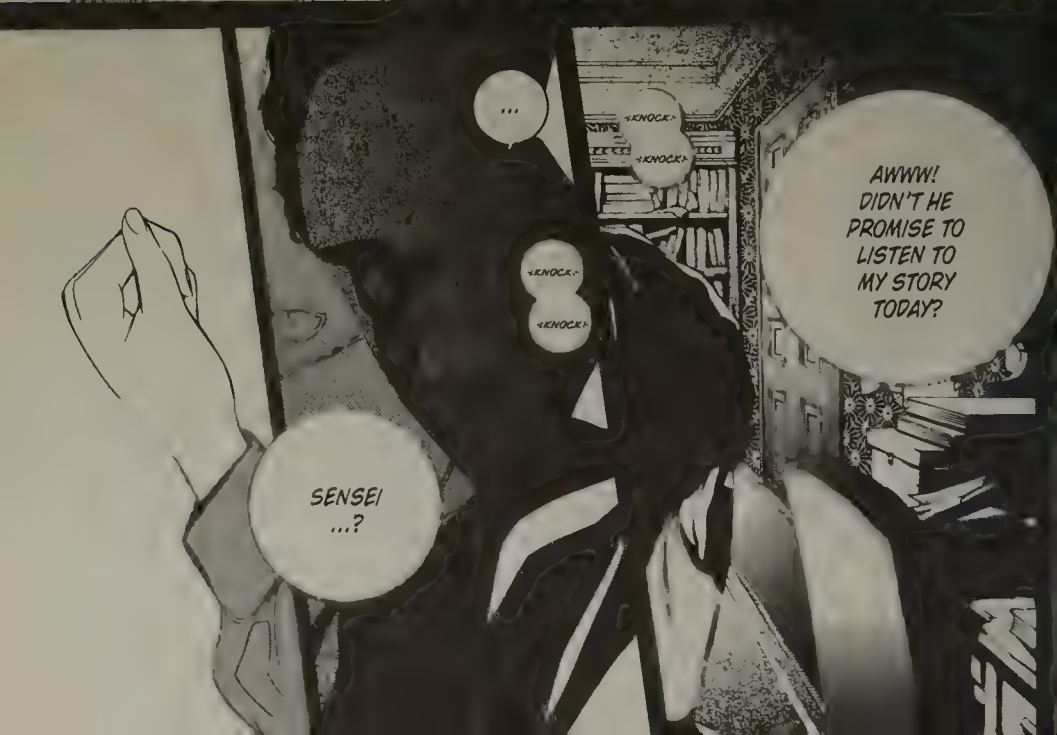
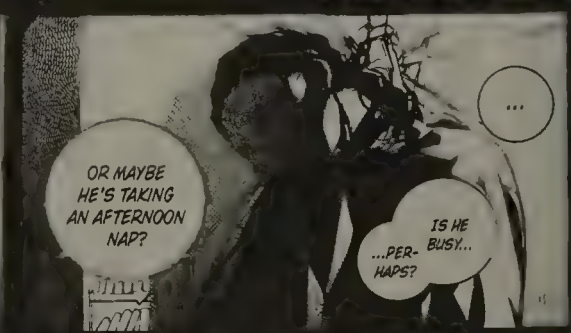
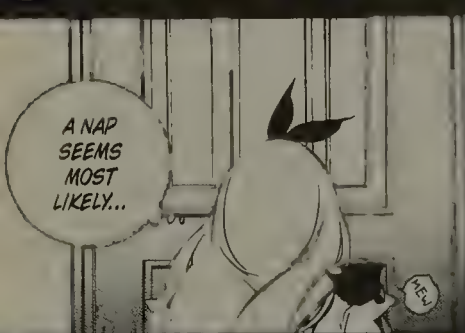
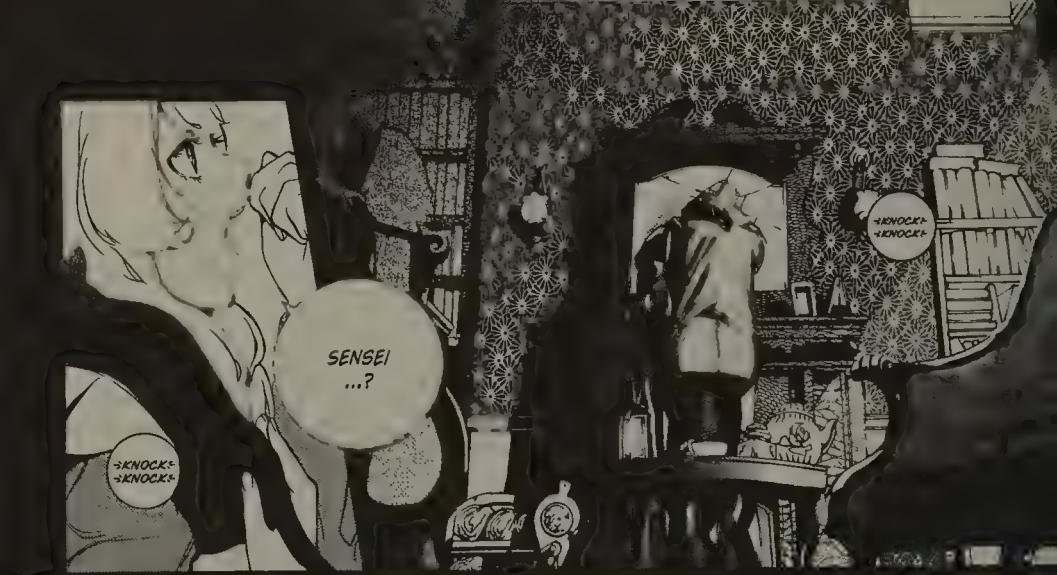
—THAT'S RIGHT.
IF THIS WERE WONDERLAND, AND I WAS AN
INHABITANT OF THE FAIRY TALE, WHO ACTS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE SETTING I CREATED
AND THE STORY THAT I'D ESTABLISHED...

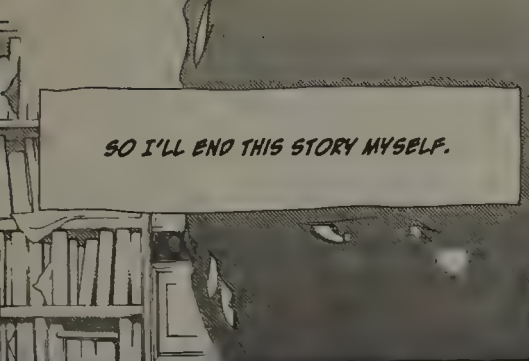
...EVEN I COULD PROTECT ALICE.
I COULD MAKE SUCH A DECLARATION.

IF I EXISTED IN A WORLD WHERE THAT WAS POSSIBLE,
I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH ANY OF YOU.
I WOULD BE THE ONE TO MAKE ALICE HAPPY.
BUT—

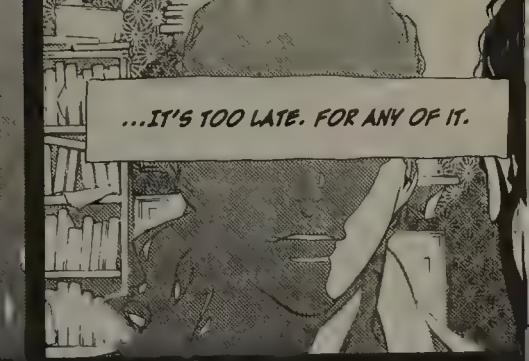


THIS STORY IS DIFFERENT.
THERE IS NO HAPPY ENDING TO ARRIVE AT.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHY THAT IS?

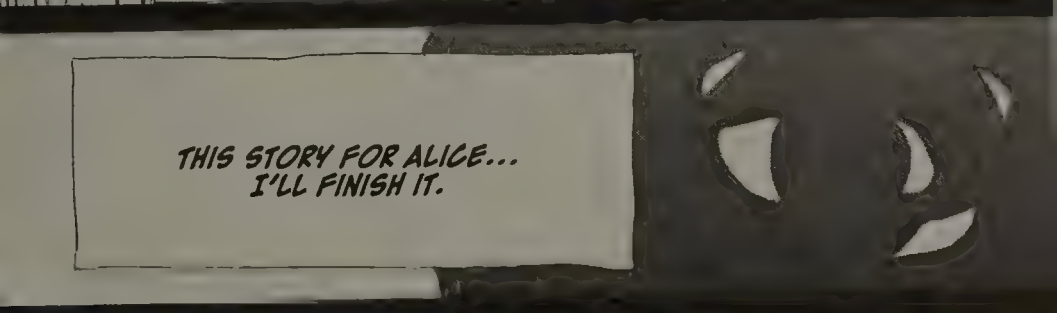




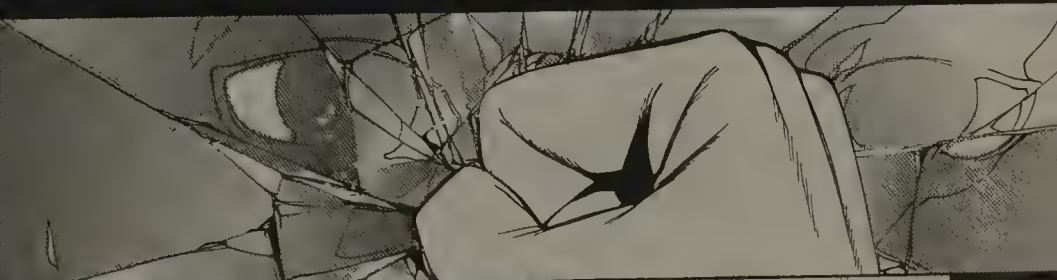
SO I'LL END THIS STORY MYSELF.



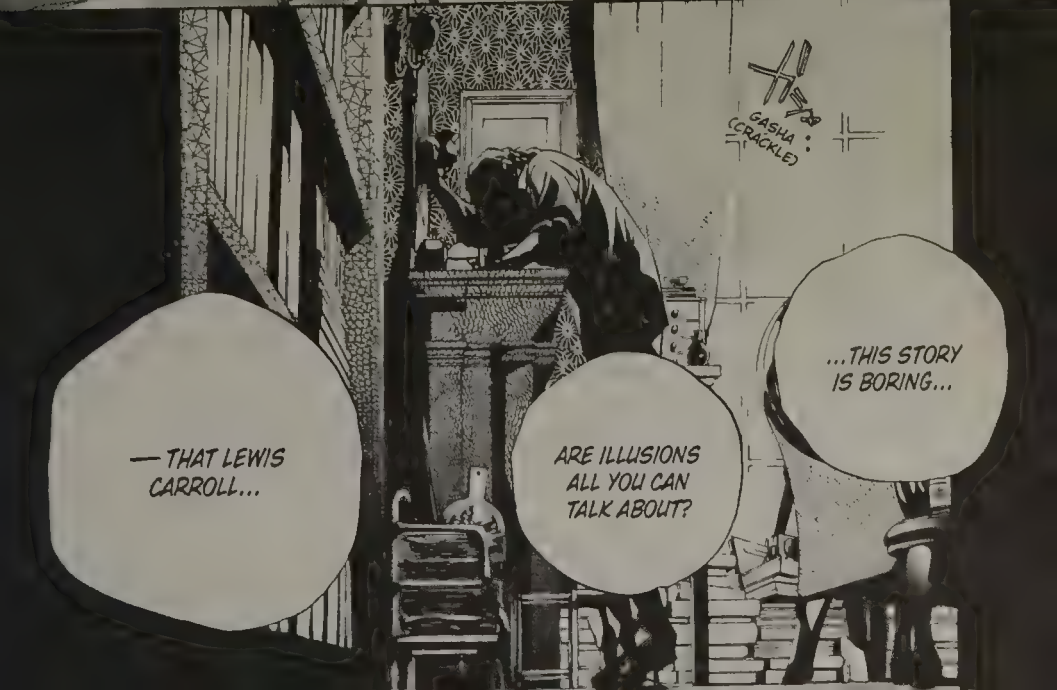
...IT'S TOO LATE. FOR ANY OF IT.



THIS STORY FOR ALICE...
I'LL FINISH IT.



GASHA
(CRACKLE)



— THAT LEWIS
CARROLL...

ARE ILLUSIONS
ALL YOU CAN
TALK ABOUT?

...THIS STORY
IS BORING...

BACK WHEN
I GOT HURT,
HE WAS SO
OBNOXIOUS,
NAGGING AT
ME EVERY
DAMN DAY, BUT
NOW HE'S ALL
HOLED UP IN
HIS ROOM...

...URGH.
WHAT'S UP
WITH HIM
.....?

→TICK→

→TOK←

→TICK→

→TOK←

I REALLY
DON'T
GET YOU,
MAN!

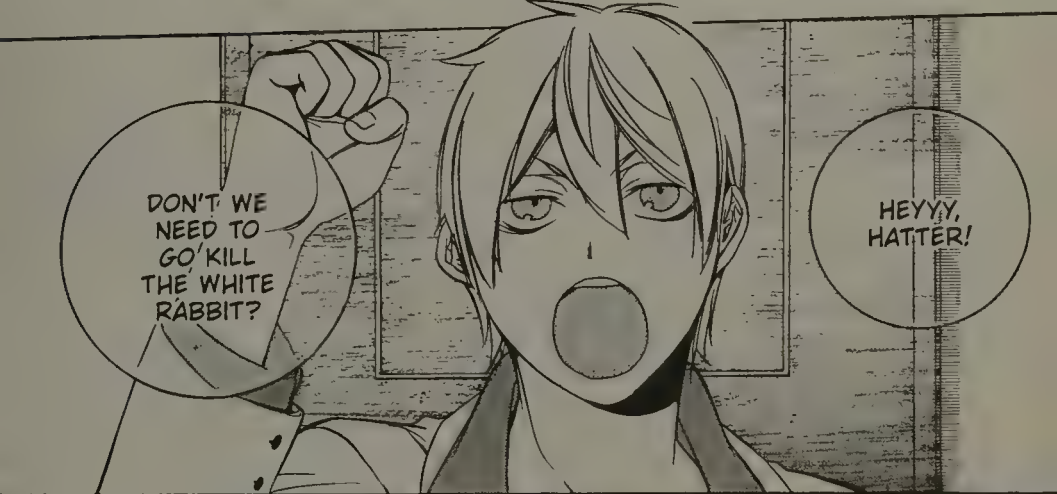
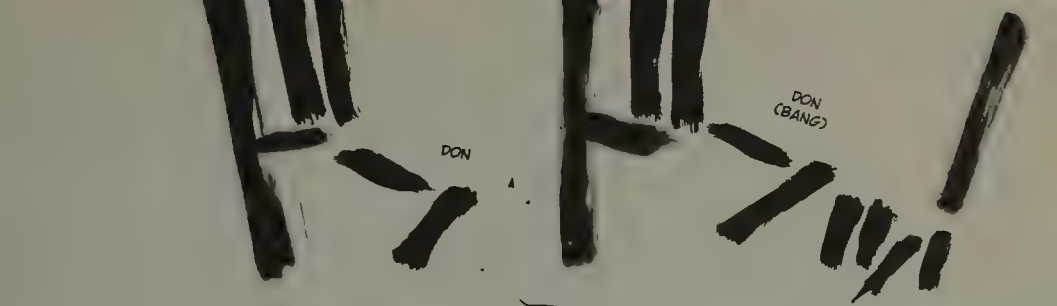
BUT I
GUESS I'M
ALREADY
USED TO
THAT!

KOTSUN
(KNOCK)
[11/12]

I'M SORRY.

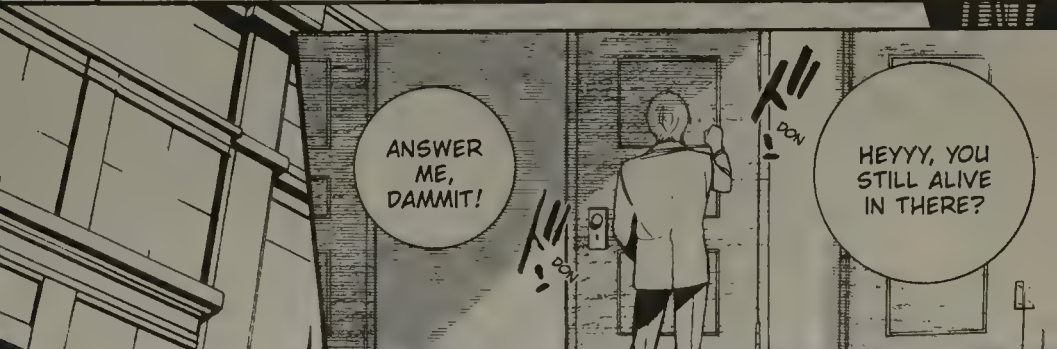
→TICK→

→TOK←



DON'T WE
NEED TO
GO KILL
THE WHITE
RABBIT?

HEYYY,
HATTER!



ANSWER
ME,
DAMMIT!

HEYYY, YOU
STILL ALIVE
IN THERE?



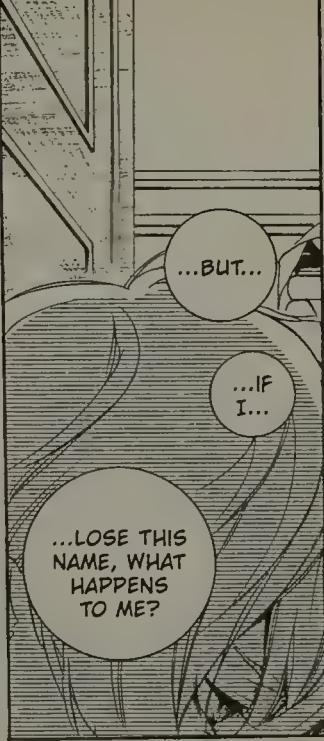
HEYYY!

Chapter 42 Street Passions.



I DON'T WANNA
DISAPPEAR...

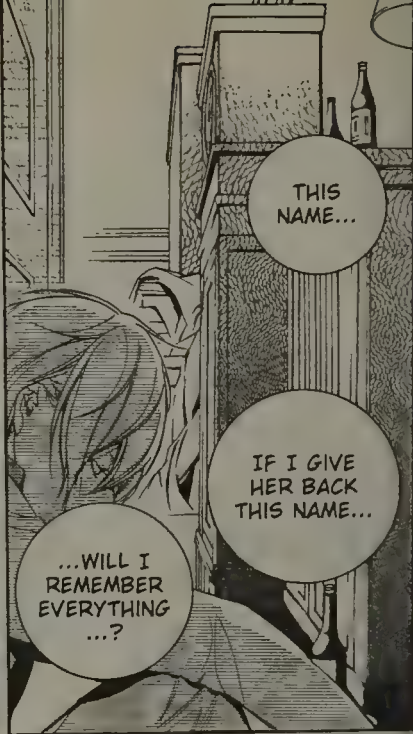
...
"AGAIN."



...BUT...

...IF
I...

...LOSE THIS
NAME, WHAT
HAPPENS
TO ME?

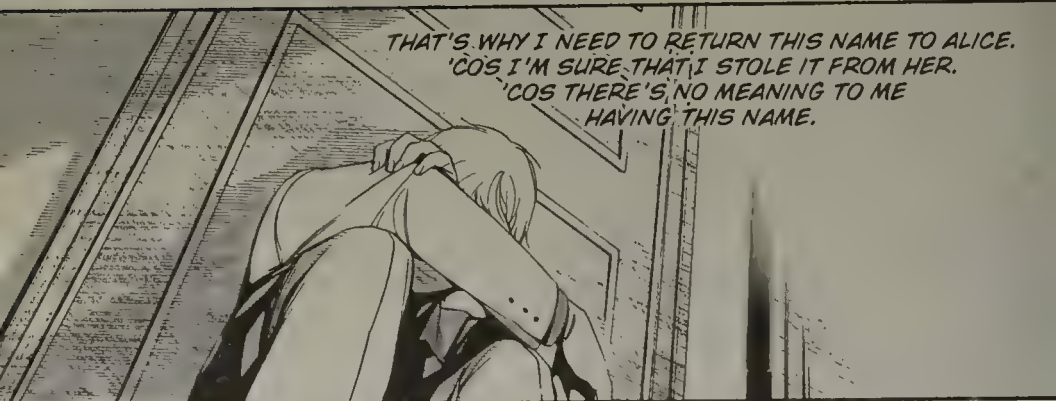


THIS
NAME...

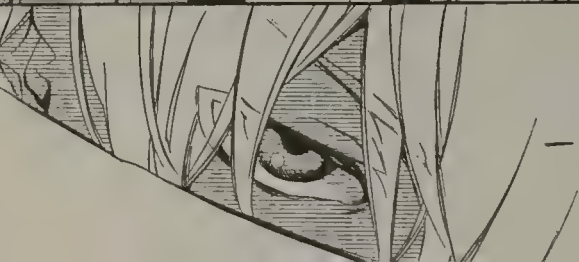
IF I GIVE
HER BACK
THIS NAME...

...WILL I
REMEMBER
EVERYTHING
...?

I KILLED ALICE.
WHY...I DON'T KNOW.
I PROBABLY FORGOT WHY.
ALONG WITH MY OWN NAME.



THAT'S WHY I NEED TO RETURN THIS NAME TO ALICE.
'COS I'M SURE THAT I STOLE IT FROM HER.
'COS THERE'S NO MEANING TO ME
HAVING THIS NAME.



— 'COS ALICE IS...MY EVERYTHING.



SHALL WE GO
TOGETHER?

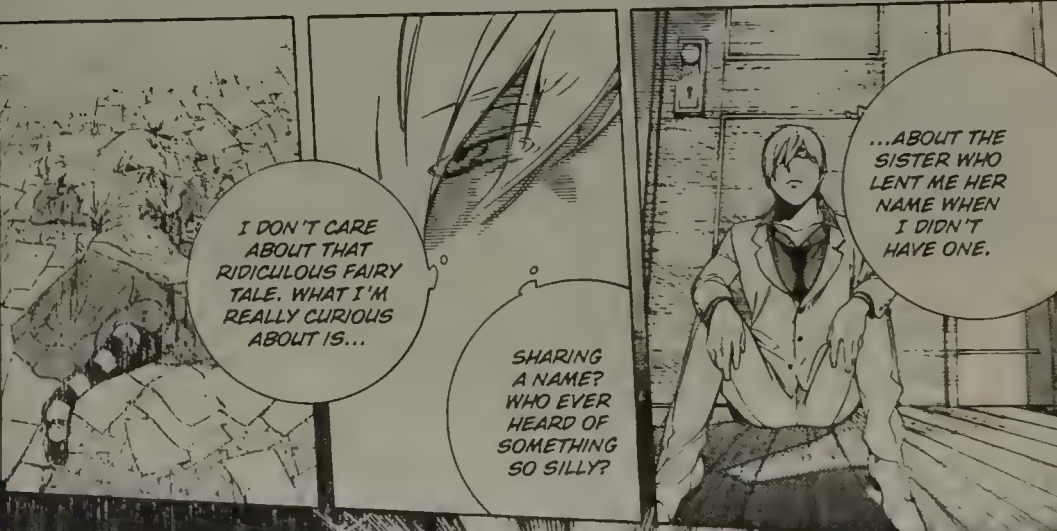
—ALICE.

...I'LL LEND
YOU MY NAME.
WE CAN SHARE IT
BETWEEN US.

I CAN'T GIVE
YOU A NAME...

...SO...

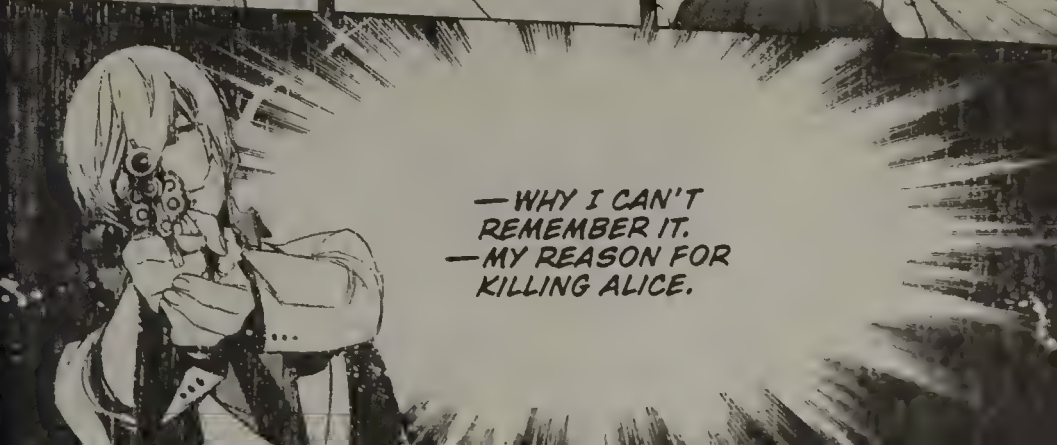
I HAD THAT STRANGE DREAM AGAIN...



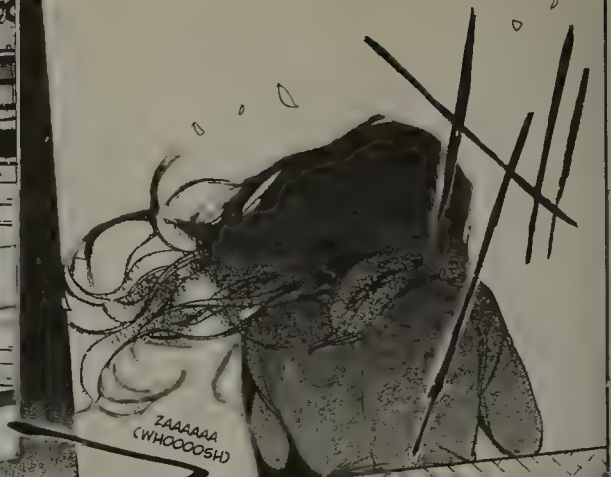
I DON'T CARE
ABOUT THAT
RIDICULOUS FAIRY
TALE. WHAT I'M
REALLY CURIOUS
ABOUT IS...

SHARING
A NAME?
WHO EVER
HEARD OF
SOMETHING
SO SILLY?

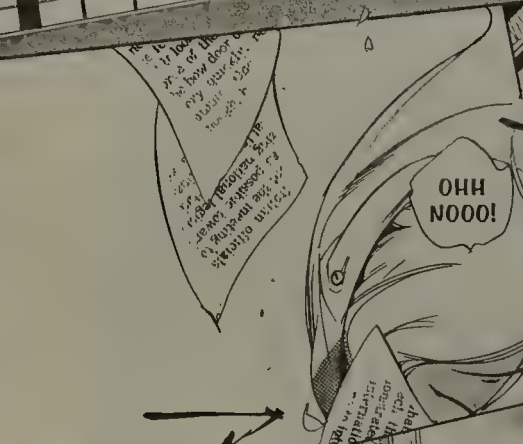
...ABOUT THE
SISTER WHO
LENT ME HER
NAME WHEN
I DIDN'T
HAVE ONE.



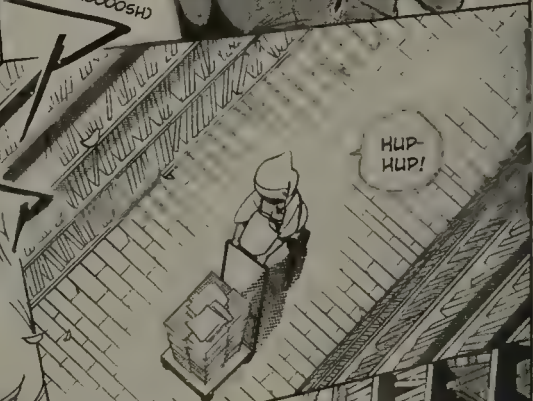
—WHY I CAN'T
REMEMBER IT.
—MY REASON FOR
KILLING ALICE.



ZAAAAA
(WHOOOOSH)



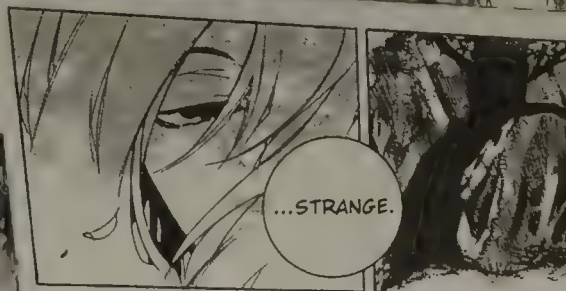
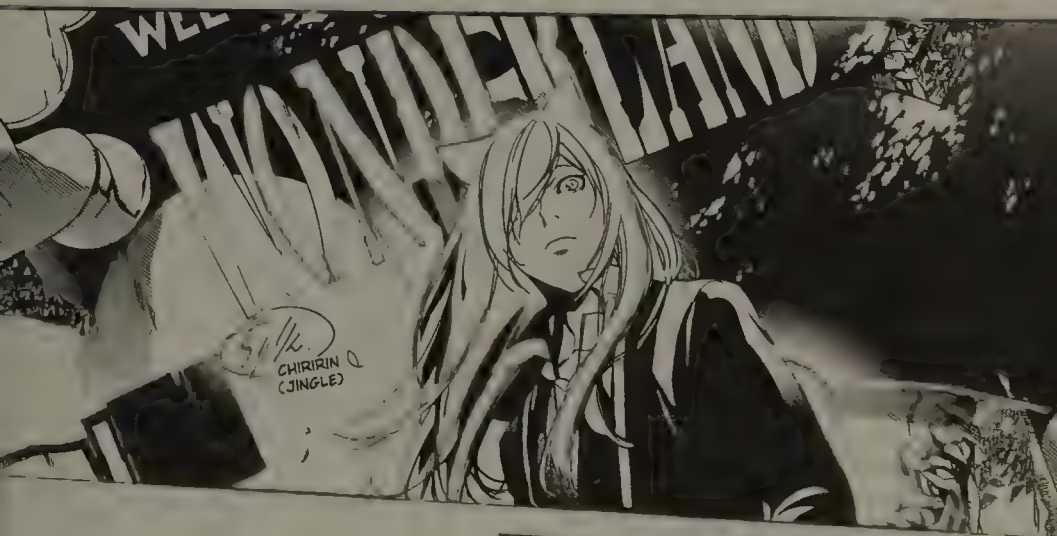
OHH
NOOO!



HUP
HUP!

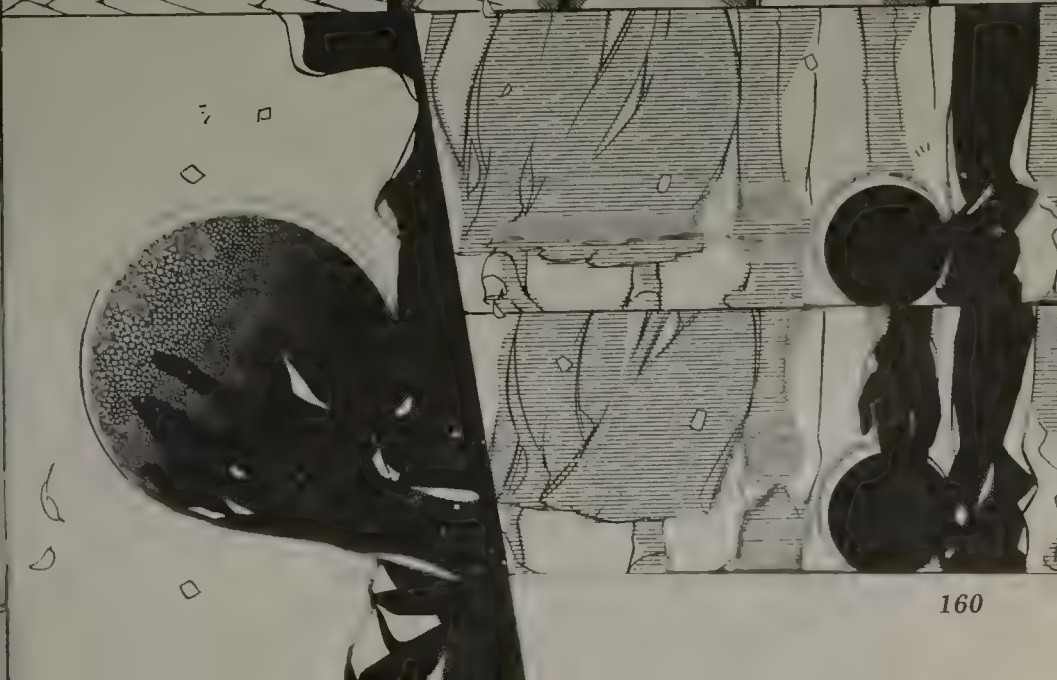


—DINAH.



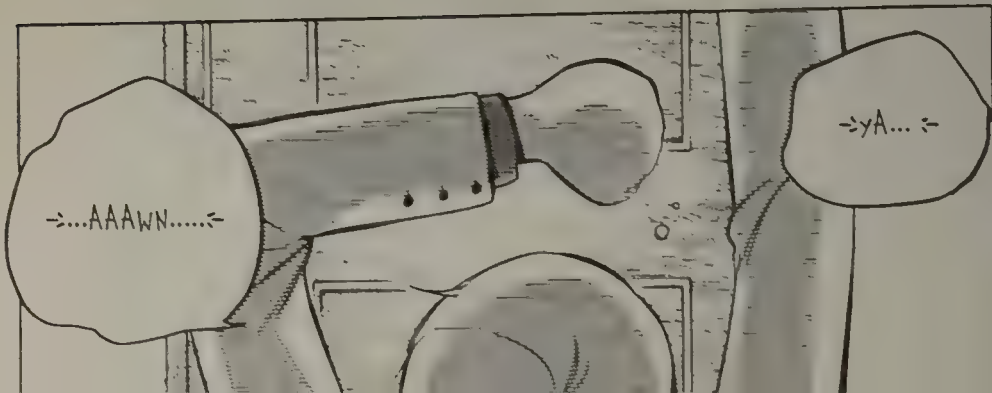
I'M CERTAIN I
THREW AWAY MY
"NAME" BEFORE
COMING HERE.

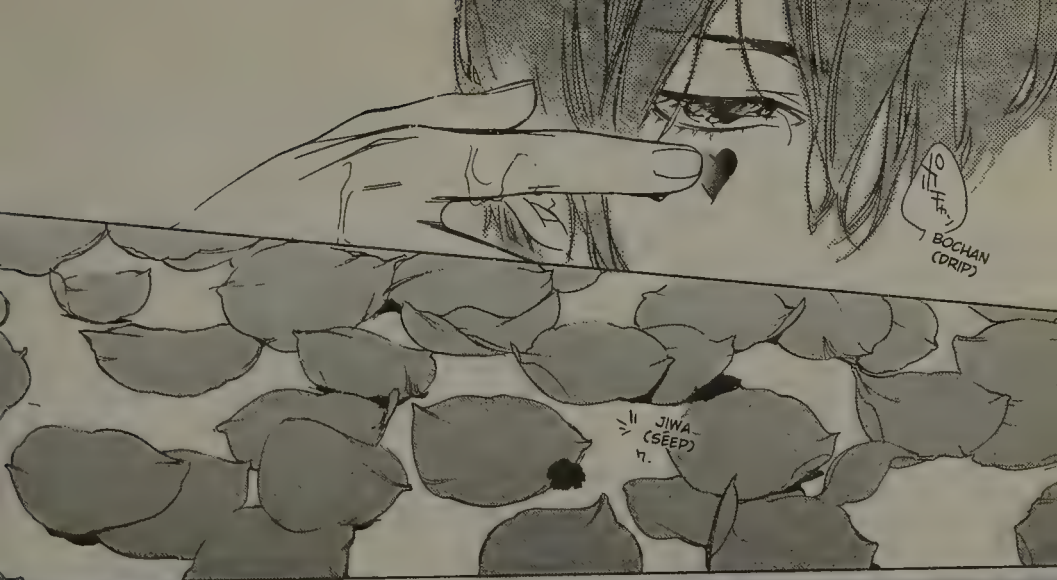






o





BOCHAN
(DRIP)

JIWA
(SLEEP)

...ONCE AGAIN
ABLE TO
WRITE THE
STORY?

SO
HE'S...



AREN'T YOU
USED TO IT
ALREADY?

AS IF I
COULD
GET
USED
TO IT!

Y'KNOW,
WHILE
YOU'VE BEEN
DISREGARDING
THIS ALICE
HOWEVER
THE HELL YOU
PLEASE—

WH, HEY! HOLD
ON, HATTER!
THAT'S ALL YOU
HAVE TO SAY
AFTER DESERTING
ME FOR THREE
OR FOUR DAYS
STRAIGHT!?

YEAH,
THANKS TO
YOU, NOW
THERE'S
JUST THIS
SHOOTING
PAIN IN MY
HEAD!

THEN THERE'S
NO PROBLEM.
I'LL GIVE YOU
THREE MINUTES,
SO GET READY.

BATA
(STOMP)
AHH,
DAMMIT!
YOU'D
BETTER
WAIT!
DON'T
YOU DARE
LEAVE
WITHOUT
ME!

YOU
HAVE TWO
MINUTES
AND FORTY
SECONDS.

HEY,
HATTER!
YOU
LISTENING
TO ME!?

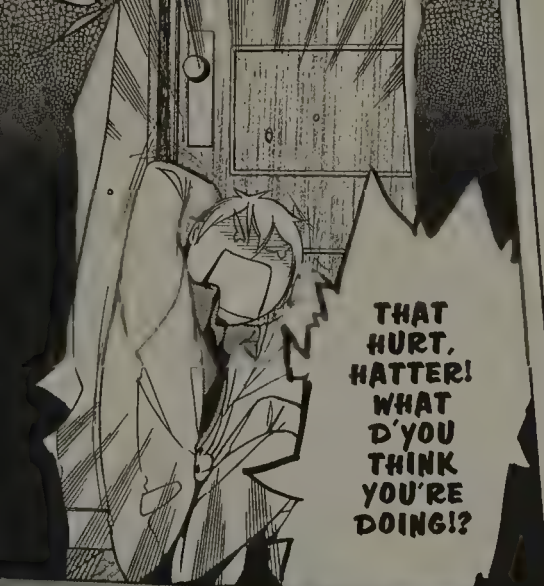
AND SINCE
WHEN DO
YOU GET
NOISY AT A
TIME LIKE
THIS? YOU
6 O'CLOCK
TEA PARTY
MACHINE!

AND IF
YOU COULD
HEAR ME IN
THERE, AT
LEAST GIVE
ME SOME
SORT OF
RESPONSE!

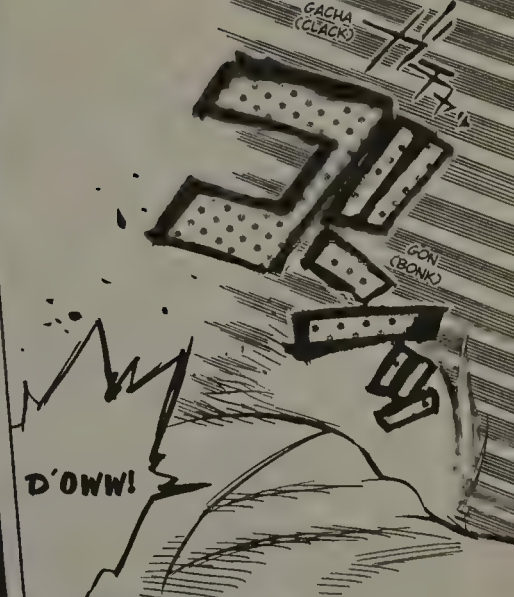
WHAT?
YOU'RE
WASTING
TIME.

I'M
ASKING THIS
'COS YOU SEEM
LIKE YOU'RE
USED TO
IT...

...SAY...



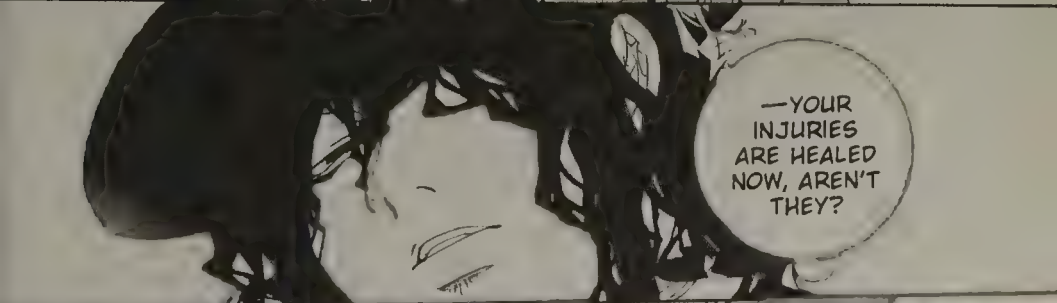
THAT
HURT,
HATTER!
WHAT
D'YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING!?



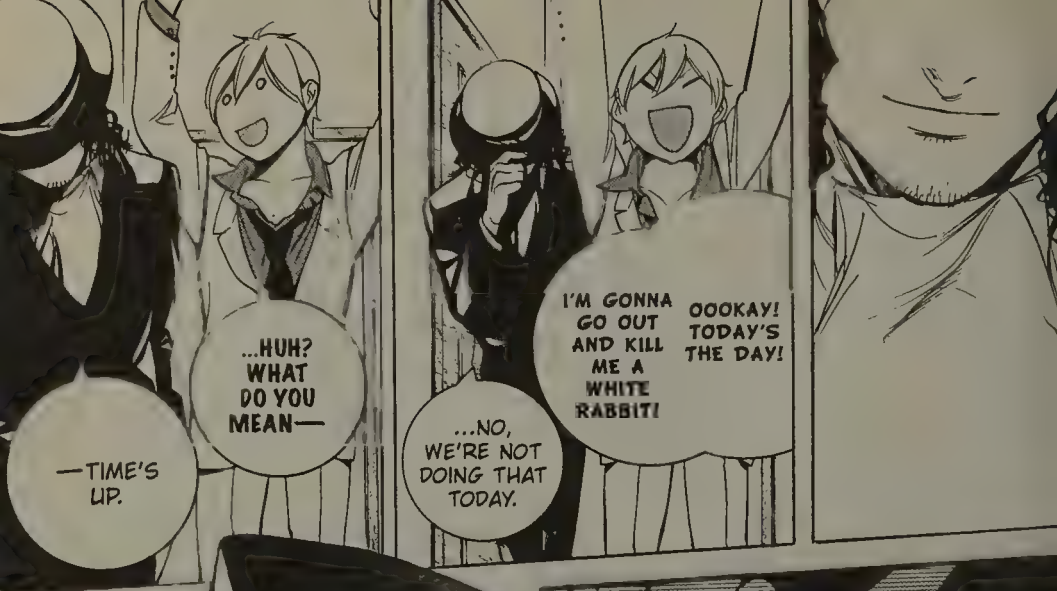
D'OWW!



DON'T
FALL ASLEEP
LEANING UP
AGAINST
A DOOR.



—YOUR
INJURIES
ARE HEALED
NOW, AREN'T
THEY?



—TIME'S
UP.

...HUH?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN—

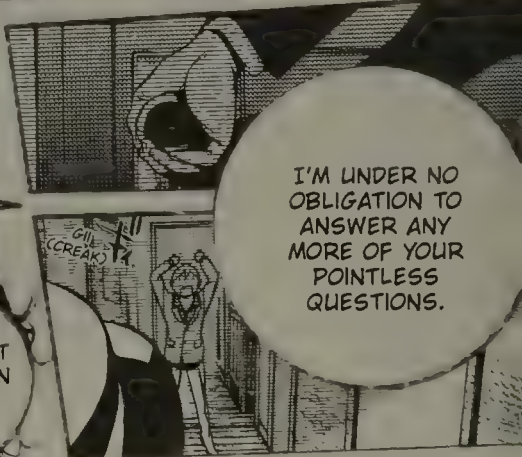
...NO,
WE'RE NOT
DOING THAT
TODAY.

I'M GONNA
GO OUT
AND KILL
ME A
WHITE
RABBIT!

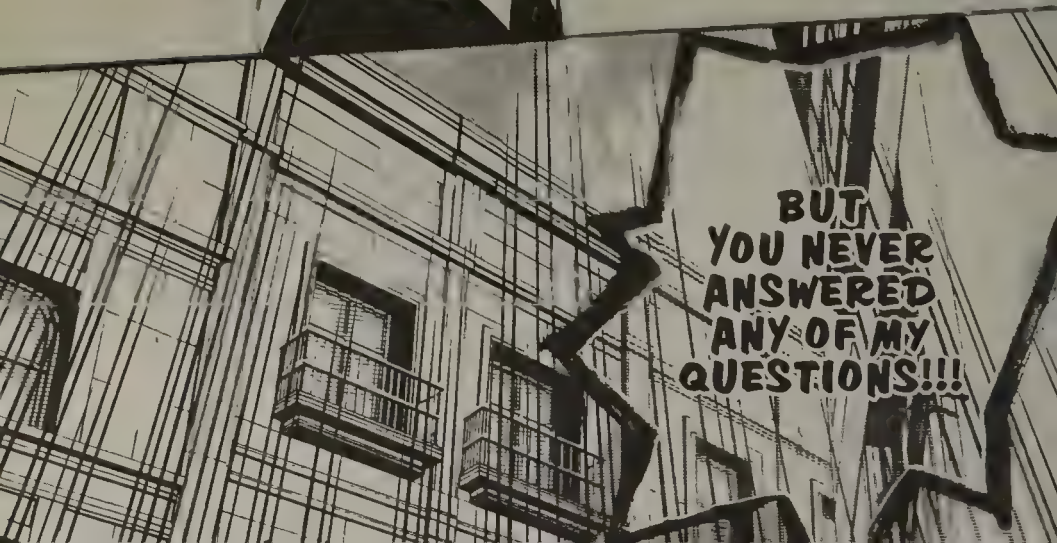
OOOKAY!
TODAY'S
THE DAY!



IF YOU GET
IT, COME ON
ALREADY,
ALICE.



I'M UNDER NO
OBLIGATION TO
ANSWER ANY
MORE OF YOUR
POINTLESS
QUESTIONS.

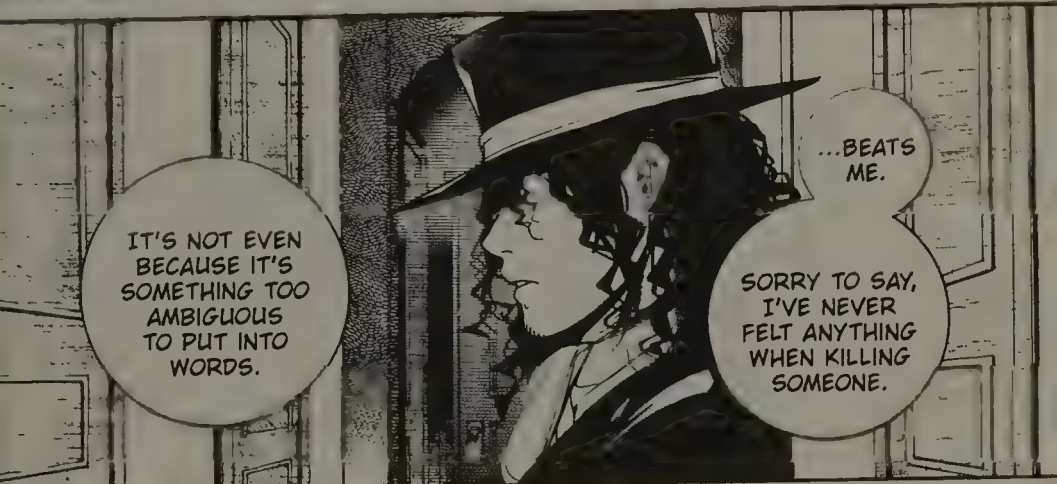


**BUT
YOU NEVER
ANSWERED
ANY OF MY
QUESTIONS!!!**



...TO KILL
SOMEONE?

WHAT'S
IT FEEL
LIKE...



IT'S NOT EVEN
BECAUSE IT'S
SOMETHING TOO
AMBIGUOUS
TO PUT INTO
WORDS.

...BEATS
ME.

SORRY TO SAY,
I'VE NEVER
FELT ANYTHING
WHEN KILLING
SOMEONE.



IF I WAS
GOING ON A
DATE WITH A
CUTE GIRL, IT'D
BE A DIFFERENT
STORY, BUT...

...RIGHT NOW,
THIS IS ALL
I NEED.

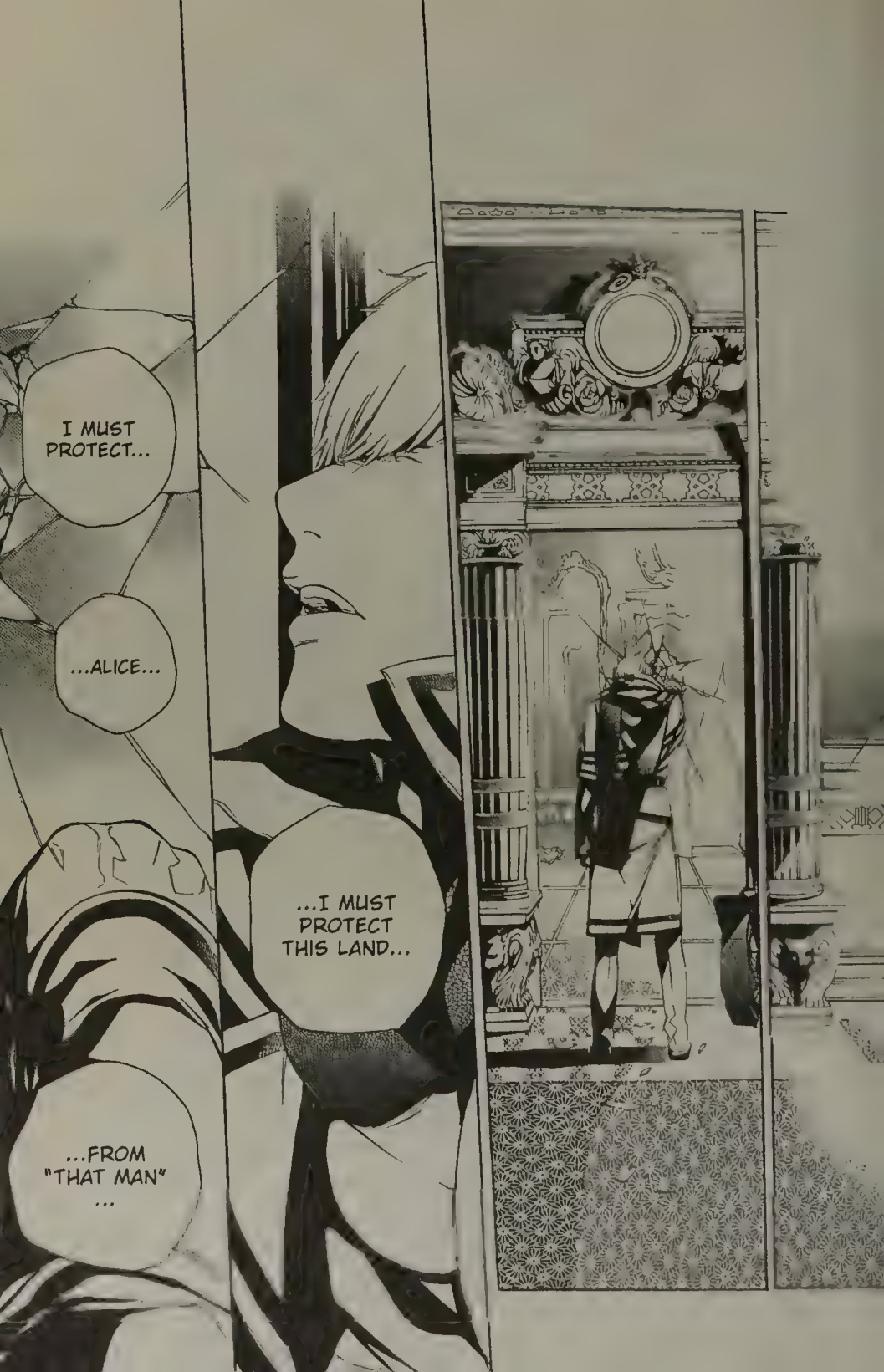
BUT
NOT AS
USELESS
AS YOU.

WHAT'S
WITH
THAT?
YOU'RE
NO USE.



YOU'RE
READY
RIGHT
NOW?

SHUT UP!
LET'S GO.



I MUST
PROTECT...

...ALICE...

...I MUST
PROTECT
THIS LAND...

...FROM
"THAT MAN"

...

HYUUUUU
(WHOOOSH)

DO YOU
THINK ALICE
WILL COME
TOMORROW?

HEY.

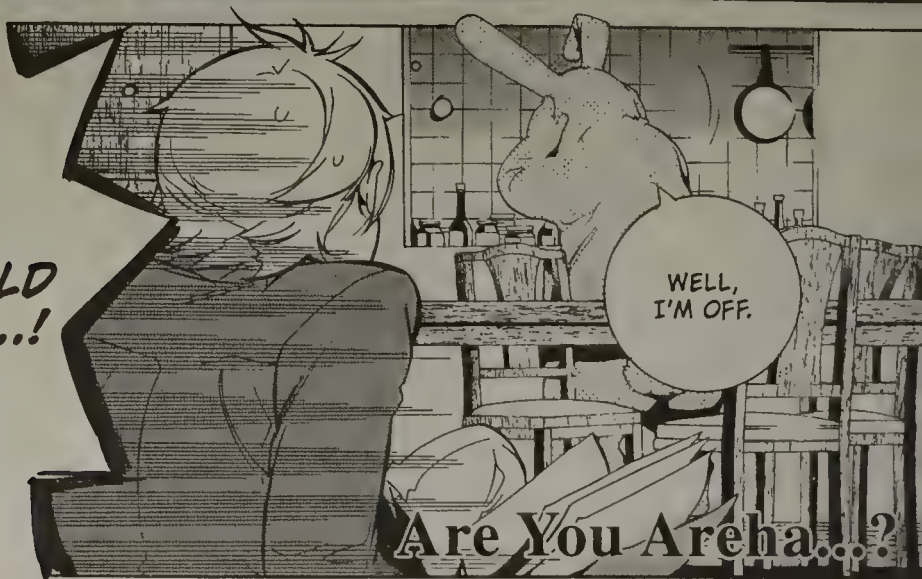
I'M LOOKING
FORWARD
TO IT.

TO MEETING
ALICE.

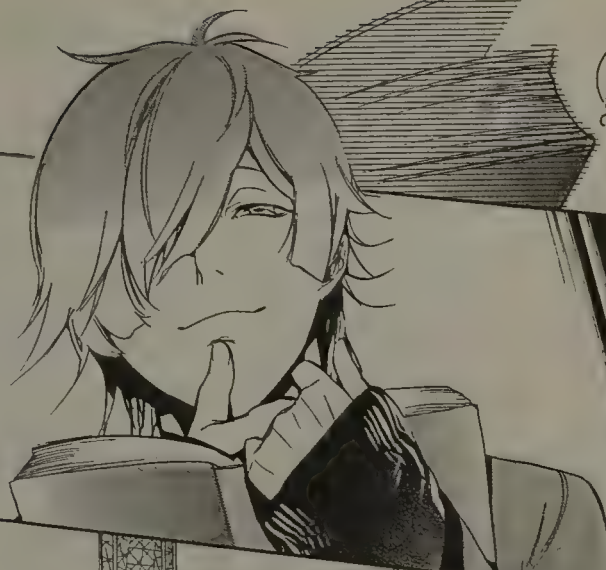
...YES,
INDEED.



**HOLD
UP...!**

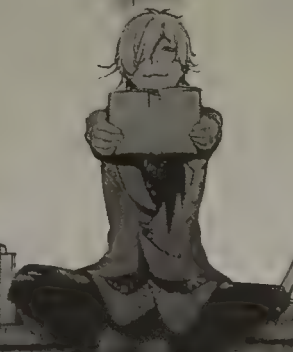


Are You Areha...?



HMM...

THIS STORY'S
GOTTEN
PRETTY
EXCITING.



Are You Alice? 7 End



...AND HE
SEEMED
MORE
HUMAN...

...THAN HE
EVER HAD
BEFORE.

...
SOMEHOW
...

...ALL THOSE
DIFFERENT
FEELINGS OF
TENACITY AND
RESIGNATION
AND SUCH
TOWARD ALICE
IN WONDERLAND
GOT ALL
MIXED UP...



I WONDER
IF THE
HATTER'S
HARD AT
WORK RIGHT
NOW...?

IF YOU
TELL ME
NOT TO
COME, I'LL
MAKE ME
WANNA
COME!

FUSHISHII'S
LACK OF
POPULARITY IS
UNRIVALED IN
WONDERLAND.

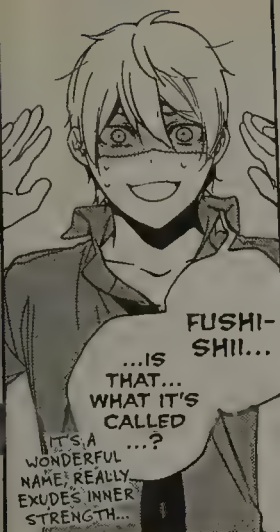
OF COURSE.
IT'S CREEPY.

WHO WOULD
WANNA CHASE
AFTER THAT?

WAAAH!

AAAGH!

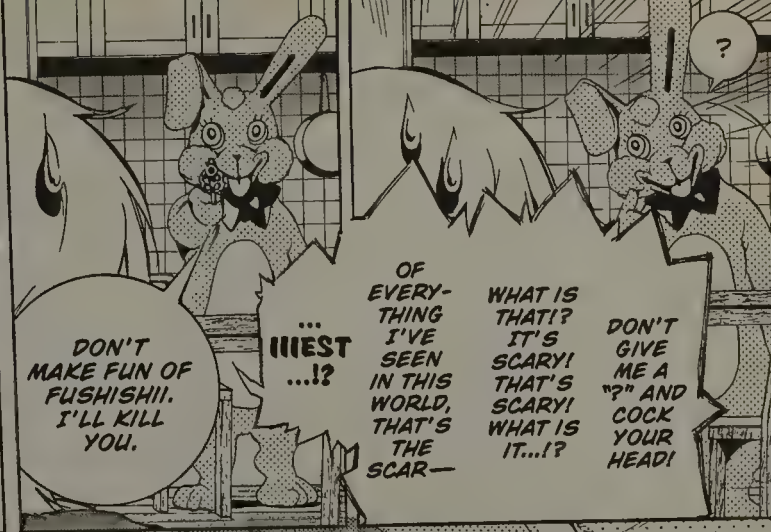
End



FUSHI-SHII...

...IS THAT...
WHAT IT'S
CALLED
...?

IT'S A
WONDERFUL
NAME, REALLY.
EXUDES INNER
STRENGTH...



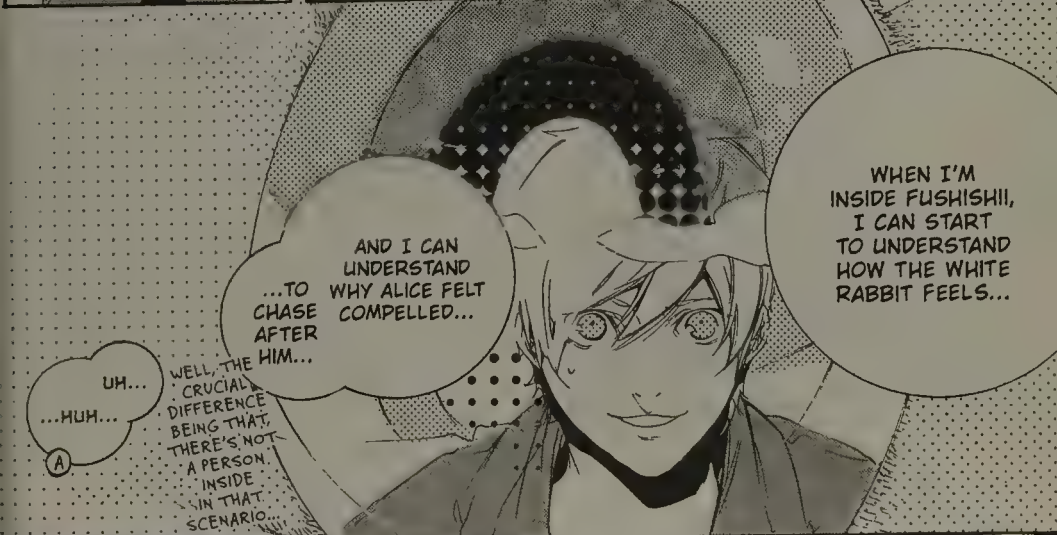
DON'T
MAKE FUN OF
FUSHISHII.
I'LL KILL
YOU.

...
HATTER
...!?

OF
EVERY-
THING
I'VE
SEEN
IN THIS
WORLD,
THAT'S
THE
SCAR—

WHAT IS
THAT?
IT'S
SCARY!
THAT'S
SCARY!
WHAT IS
IT...!?

DON'T
GIVE
ME A
"?" AND
COCK
YOUR
HEAD!

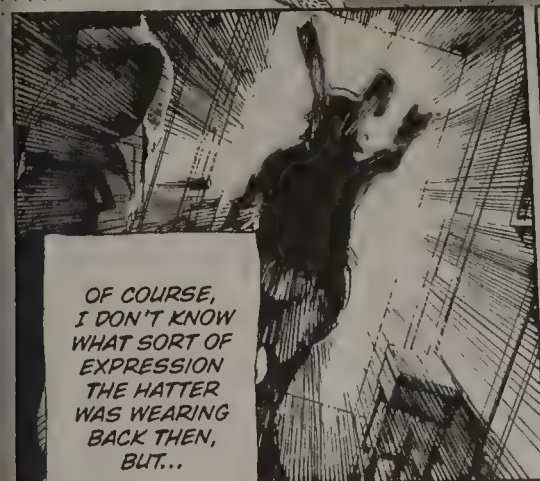


AND I CAN
UNDERSTAND
WHY ALICE FELT
COMPELLED...
...TO
CHASE
AFTER
HIM...

WHEN I'M
INSIDE FUSHISHII,
I CAN START
TO UNDERSTAND
HOW THE WHITE
RABBIT FEELS...

UH...
...HUH...

WELL, THE
CRUCIAL
DIFFERENCE
BEING THAT
THERE'S NOT
A PERSON
INSIDE
IN THAT
SCENARIO...



OF COURSE,
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT SORT OF
EXPRESSION
THE HATTER
WAS WEARING
BACK THEN,
BUT...



...SORRY,
GOTTA GO.
EVERYONE'S
WAITING FOR
FUSHISHII.

SO I'M
PROUD
OF THIS
PART-TIME
JOB.

...
HATTER
...

This story arc between the Queen and Jack was a side-story originally, but for the comic version, I made it... part of the main story...

And it kind of turned out to be a bit like an add-on. Yay for getting to use the fish butler!

And with that, I hope to see you again in Volume 8!

Ai Ninomiya



STAFF

ORIGINAL WORKS

AI
VINOMIYA!

ASSISTANT WORKS

DATENSHI
REIN OFUJI
MIZUKI SAKAMAKI
MARI
SIMA
RYO★

IF YOU HAD TO SERVE SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE QUEEN,
WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

AND WHY!

DODO
KATAGIRI

ALICE
DATENSHI

MARY
ANN
MARI

I WANNA SET HIM
ON MY LAP AND
PROTECT HIM
ALL DAY LONG.
FLUFFY AND SOFT!

HIS BROAD
SHOULDERS
IN WOMEN'S
CLOTHES ARE
THE BEST!

I WANNA BE BY
YOUR SIDE!

And what of those left-

DO YOU INTEND TO
KEEP PLAYING THIS
GAME KNOWING HIS
TRUE IDENTITY?

...THEN
TELL ME.

YOU KNOW THE
TRUE IDENTITY
OF THE 89TH ALICE,
DON'T YOU?

*What does the
Hatter's grin
reveal
....?*

*Are you Alice?
VOLUME 8 COMING SOON!*

*From Wonderland
and through the
Looking-glass!*

— WELCOME
HOME.

YOUR
MAJESTY.

*But the unreasonable
demands being made of
Alice-only-continue!*

PLEASE,
GIVE BACK
THE NAME
ALICE,
AND COME
WITH ME.

ARE YOU ALICE? 7

IKUMI KATAGIRI
AI NINOMIYA

Translation and Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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It's a very special holiday in Wonderland—the one day a year when everyone can take a break from Alice. In celebration, the Queen of Hearts is throwing a grand bash, and everyone in Wonderland is invited! Everyone except Alice, that is. Outraged when the Hatter abandons him for the festivities amid reassurances that absolutely no one is bold enough to break the rules and come after him, Alice knows well enough that he'll never be so lucky. But even Alice is surprised when, of all people, the Jack of Hearts attempts to abduct him!